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THE ARMY.

ULYSSES S. GRANT,
President and Commander-in-Chief

WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, WASHINGTON, January 5, 1875.

Publishes letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury to the Secretary of War, informing him that the amount of U. S. securities held by the Treasurer of the U. S. in trust for the Merchants' National Bank of Little Rock, Ark., as security for public deposits, now stands at \$70,000, an increase of \$20,000.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS.

Issued from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, for the week ending January 12, 1875.

Wednesday, January 6.

The leave of absence on Surgeon's certificate of disability granted Captain J. S. Tompkins, Twenty-fifth Infantry (Fort Stockton, Texas), in Special Orders No. 186, November 23, 1874, from Headquarters Department of Texas, is extended five months on Surgeon's certificate of disability.

The resignation of Captain Henry A. Du Pont, Fifth Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect March 1, 1875.

To be discharged.—Private Emil Hohl, H, Twenty-third Infantry, now with his command; Recruit Frederick Beckman, General Service U. S. Army; Privates Edward Davaran, Signal Service U. S. Army, now on detached service at Headquarters Department of the Missouri; John M. Thompson, F, Third Artillery, now with his command; William Dunbar, B, Sixteenth Infantry, now in confinement with his command; Recruit James E. Weston, General Service U. S. Army, now at Recruiting Rendezvous, Cleveland, O.

Reverted.—Transfer of Private Allen Ellis, B, Thirtieth Infantry, to E, Thirtieth Infantry; transfer of Thomas Sheldon, D, Fourth Artillery, to B, Eighteenth Infantry.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon A. W. Wiggin is relieved from duty in the Department of the Columbia and will report in person to the President of the Army Medical Board in session in New York City for examination for promotion. On completion of his examination he will report by letter to the Surgeon-General.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant H. L. Haskell, Twelfth Infantry (Fort Yuma, Cal.), in Special Orders No. 152, December 7, 1874, from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is further extended three months.

Prisoners transferred.—From Newport Barracks, Ky., to the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kas.: Edward Van Rensselaer, private, A, Fifth Artillery; Thomas Hogan, private, General Service; Richard Welsh, late second class private, Ordnance Detachment; Hubert Schroeder, late recruit, General Service; Edward Klinger, late private, G, Second Infantry; Arthur Trilech and Gustavus Winkelman, late privates, B, Music Boys, General Service; George L. Tonner, late recruit, General Service; James Cyphers, late private, First Cavalry.

Thursday, January 7.

Prisoners transferred.—From Missouri Penitentiary, Jefferson City, Mo., to the Leavenworth Military Prison, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.: Charles Bowers, late private, E, Sixth Cavalry; Michael Christian, late unassigned recruit; Henry Cagger, late private, A, Ninth Cavalry; Maurice Duvall, late private, Tenth Cavalry; Benjamin Jackson, late private, B, Tenth Cavalry; Jacob Maddox, late private, G, Twenty-fourth Infantry; Thos. McDermott, late recruit, General Mounted Service; William Parker, late private, B, Fifth Infantry.

To be discharged.—Bugler Gustav Cohen, D, First Artillery.

Friday, January 8.

The leave of absence granted Major J. J. Upham, Fifth Cavalry (Caldwell, Kas.), in Special Orders No. 207, December 13, 1874, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is extended six months, with permission to go beyond sea.

First Lieutenant E. M. Camp, Twelfth Infantry, now on leave of absence, is assigned to duty in Washington, to date from the 1st instant, with a view to the settlement of his accounts pertaining to Quartermaster's and Subsistence Departments.

To be discharged.—Privates John M. Laskey, General Service U. S. Army, now with the Signal Service Detachment, at Fort Whipple, Va.; Carlos Carmona, F, Sixteenth Infantry.

Saturday, January 9.

The Board of Ordnance Officers appointed by Par. 6, Special Orders No. 231, October 10, 1874, from this Office, and now in session in New York City, will proceed to Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa.,

for duty in connection with experimental powders, and on completion thereof will resume their present station.

Prisoners transferred.—From Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., to the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kas.: Joseph Lee, recruit, General Service; Vincent A. Kelly, recruit, General Mounted Service; James Morris, private, I, First Cavalry; William Hastings, private, A, Fifth Cavalry; Charles Tracy, late recruit, General Service; Charles Braun, late recruit, General Mounted Service; Emil Troitzsch, late private, B, Music Boys, General Service; W. P. Klingsbury and James Wilson, late privates, A, Permanent Party, General Service; Anthony Messler, late second class private, Ordnance Detachment; William Ewing, late private, B, First Artillery; F. J. Kennedy, late private, H, First Artillery; Pierre Oudin, late private, I, First Artillery; Hermann Hohorst, late private, D, First Infantry; William R. Browne, late private, G, Sixteenth Infantry; James F. Glynn, late private, I, Sixteenth Infantry.

The leave of absence on Surgeon's certificate of disability granted Captain A. B. Taylor, Fifth Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 141, June 29, 1874, from this office, is extended eight months on Surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond sea.

To be discharged.—Commissary Sergeant August Gewer, now on duty at Oglethorpe Barracks, Savannah, Ga.; Sergeants Walter B. Webster, Signal Service, now at Salt Lake City, U. T.; George Webber, E, First Cavalry, now with his command.

To complete his record on the rolls, no discharge having been furnished, Captain William H. Courtney, Seventh New York Artillery, is mustered out and honorable discharged from the military service of the United States, to date August 1, 1865, by reason of the muster out of his command. No payments will be made on this order, the officer having been paid in full to date of discharge.

Captain A. S. Kimball, Assistant Quartermaster, is relieved from duty in the Department of Texas and will report in person to the Commanding General Department of the Missouri for assignment to duty at Fort Riley, Kas., in charge of the repairs at that post in addition to the ordinary duties of Quartermaster.

Prisoners transferred.—From St. Louis Barracks, Mo., to the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kas.: George Cochran and William J. Kent, late recruits, and John Goenner, late private, Permanent Company, General Mounted Service.

Monday, January 11.

Ordered to Station.—The following named enlisted men of the Ninth Infantry, will return to their station at Fort Laramie, with permission to delay fifteen days en route: First Sergeant John H. D. Smith, B; Sergeant Johnston B. Reed, E.

To be discharged.—Private James E. Howell, C, Fifth Infantry, now with his command.

Second Lieutenant O. D. Ladley, Twenty-second Infantry, is relieved from duty with the U. S. Northern Boundary Commission, and will proceed without delay to join his proper station.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following are the changes of stations of troops reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, January 9:

Company C, Fourth Artillery, from Presidio, Cal., to Alcatraz Island, Cal.

Company C, Third Infantry, from New Orleans, La., to Natchitoches, La.

Company B, Twenty-second Infantry, from Savannah, Ga., to New Orleans, La.

Post Established.—Natchez, La.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ORDERS.

G. C.-M. O. No. 89, Washington, December 4, 1874. —Relates to trials of enlisted men by Court-martial.

G. C.-M. O. No. 90, Washington, December 5, 1874. —Before a General Court-martial which convened at West Point, N. Y., November 23, 1874, pursuant to S. O. No. 191, Headquarters U. S. Military Academy, November 19, 1874, and of which Major Alfred Mordecai, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, is president, were arraigned and tried:

Cadet Corporal William Holabird, Third Class, and Cadet Joseph F. Cummings, First Class, and Oscar J. Brown, Second Class, U. S. Military Academy, all on the charge of "Violation of Par. 127, Academic Regulations." The specification in each case alleged that being on the sick report and in the Cadet Hospital, each absented himself from the said hospital without proper authority for a period longer than half an hour, between tattoo on the 12th of November and reveille on the 13th of November, 1874. To which charge and specification each pleaded "Guilty," and was so found; and sentenced to be suspended without pay until July 1, 1875, and to join respectively the then Third, First, and Second Classes.

G. C.-M. O. No. 91, Washington, Dec. 18, 1874. —Before a G. C.-M. which convened at West Point, N. Y., December 1, 1874, pursuant to S. O. No. 191, Headquarters U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., November 19, 1874, and of which Major Alfred Mordecai, Ordnance Department, U. S. Army, is president, was arraigned and tried: Cadet Albert L. Mills, Fourth Class, U. S. Military Academy. Charge.—"Violation of Par. 124, Academic Regulations. Specification 1st.—That he brought, or caused to be brought, a bottle containing intoxicating liquor within the Cadet limits, on or about the 25th of November, 1874, be-

tween the hours of 8 and 10 p. m. Specification 2d.—That being Orderly of his room, he had in his room a bottle containing intoxicating liquor, on same day. To which charge and specifications the accused, Cadet Albert L. Mills, Fourth Class, U. S. Military Academy, declined to plead, on the ground that the court declined "to place his charge under any Article of War, and the court has no power to try him under any other law." The court found the accused as follows: Of the 1st specification, "Not Guilty;" of the 2d specification, "Guilty;" of the charge, "Guilty." He was sentenced "To be dismissed the service of the United States." The proceedings, findings, and sentence of the General Court-martial in the foregoing case, are approved. All the members of the court recommend the accused to clemency, on the ground of his youth and previous good character. The sentence is mitigated to "suspension without pay until July 1, 1875, when he shall join the then Fourth Class."

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Private Henry Pond, Company G, First Artillery, is hereby transferred to Company B of that regiment. He will proceed without delay to his proper station—St. Augustine, Fla.—and report to his company commander for duty. (S. O. No. 1, Jan. 4.)

The leave of absence for one month, granted Second Lieutenant William H. McMinn, Eighth Infantry, by Special Orders No. 104, Headquarters Department of Arizona, 1874, and extended one month by Special Orders No. 162, Headquarters Division of the Pacific, 1874, is further extended one month. (S. O. No. 2, Jan. 6.)

1. Leave of absence for four months is granted Captain Henry W. Wessels, Jr., Third Cavalry. (S. O. No. 3, Jan. 7.)

2. Leave of absence for seventy-five days is granted Colonel B. H. Grierson, Tenth Cavalry, to take effect from December 20, 1874. (Ibid.)

Lieutenant-Colonel Bradley, of the Ninth Cavalry, telegraphs to the Army Headquarters January 12, that Captain Henry, who was sent some weeks ago with a detachment to compel a party of miners to leave the Black Hills, had returned to Sheridan Village, the whole command being badly frozen.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieut.-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdq'rs New Orleans, La.

Department Transferred.—By order of the Lieutenant-General of the Army, issued by authority of the President of the United States, the Department of the Gulf was on the 4th instant transferred to the Division of the Missouri.

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon Charles Pelaez, U. S. Army, was ordered January 6 to report to the commanding officer of the troops in New Orleans for assignment to duty.

New Orleans.—A General Court-martial was constituted to meet at New Orleans, January 11. Detail for the court: Captains Charles A. Webb, Twenty-second Infantry; James T. McGinniss and Wm. M. Waterbury, Thirtieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Jesse C. Chance, Thirtieth Infantry; Second Lieutenants Emerson Griffith, Thirtieth Infantry; Gustav Von Blucher, Twentieth-second Infantry; George P. Cecil, Thirtieth Infantry. Second Lieutenant O. M. Smith, Twenty-second Infantry, judge-advocate.

Jackson Barracks.—A General Court-martial was constituted to meet at Jackson Barracks, La., January 11. Detail for the court: Captains Jacob F. Kent, John H. Page, Third Infantry; J. B. Irvine, Twenty-second Infantry; Charles Hobart, Third Infantry; First Lieutenants Geo. W. H. Stouch, Third Infantry; E. Van A. Andruss, First Artillery; John W. Hannay, Third Infantry. Second Lieutenant George W. Deshler, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

Report of General Sheridan.—The following is the report of General Sheridan on the New Orleans troubles:

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
NEW ORLEANS, LA., JAN. 8.

To the Hon. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, Washington:

I have the honor to submit the following brief report of affairs as they occurred here in the organization of the State Legislature of Jan. 4, 1875. I was not in command of this military department until 9 o'clock at night on the 4th inst., but I fully indorse, and am willing to be held responsible for acts of the military as conservators of the public peace upon that day. During the few days in which I was in the city prior to the 4th of January, the general topic of conversation was the scenes of bloodshed that were liable to occur on that day, and I repeatedly heard threats of assassinating the Governor, and regrets expressed that he was not killed on the 14th of September last; also threats of the assassination of Republican members of the House in order to secure the election of a Democratic Speaker. I also know of the kidnapping by the

banditti of Mr. Cousin, one of the members elect of the Legislature.

In order to preserve peace, and to make the State-house safe for the peaceable assembling of the Legislature, General Emory, upon the requisition of the Governor, stationed troops in the vicinity of the building. Owing to these precautions the Legislature assembled in the State-house without any disturbance of the peace. At 12 o'clock William Vigers, the clerk of the last House of Representatives, proceeded to call the roll, as according to law he was empowered to do. One hundred and two legally-returned members answered to their names. Of this number, fifty-two were Republicans and fifty Democrats. Before entering the House Mr. L. A. Wiltz had been selected in caucus as the Democratic nominee for Speaker, and Michael Hahn as the Republican nominee.

Mr. Vigers had not finished announcing the result when one of the members, Mr. Billien, of Lafourche, nominated Mr. L. A. Wiltz for temporary Speaker. Mr. Vigers promptly declared the motion out of order at that time, when some one put the question, and amid cheers on the Democratic side of the House, Mr. Wiltz dashed on to the rostrum, pushed aside Mr. Vigers, seized the Speaker's chair and gavel, and declared himself Speaker. A protest against this arbitrary and unlawful proceeding was promptly made by members of the majority, but Mr. Wiltz paid no attention to these protests, and on motion from some one on the Democratic side of the House, it was declared that one Trezevant was nominated and elected Clerk of the House. Mr. Trezevant at once sprang forward and occupied the Clerk's chair amid the wildest confusion over the whole house. Mayor Wiltz then again, on other nomination from the Democratic side of the House, declared one Flood elected sergeant at arms, and ordered a certain number of assistants to be appointed. Instantly a large number of men throughout the hall, who had been admitted on various pretexts, such as reporters and members' friends and spectators, turned down the lappels of their coats upon which were pinned blue ribbon badges, on which were printed in gold letters the words "Assistant Sergeant at Arms," and the Assembly was in the possession of the minority, and the White League of Louisiana had made good its threat of seizing the House, many of the assistant sergeants at arms being well known as captains of White League companies in this city. Notwithstanding the suddenness of this movement, the leading Republican members had not failed to protest again and again against this revolutionary action of the minority, but all to no purpose, and many of the Republicans rose and left the House in a body, together with the clerk, Mr. Vigers, who carried with him the original roll of the House as returned by the Secretary of State. The excitement was now very great, and the acting Speaker directed the sergeant at arms to prevent the egress or ingress of members or others, and several exciting scuffles in which knives and pistols were drawn took place, and for a few moments it seemed as if bloodshed would ensue.

At this juncture Mr. Dupre, a Democratic member from Orleans Parish, moved that the military power of the General Government be invoked to preserve the peace, and that a committee be appointed to wait on General De Trobriand, the commanding officer of the United States troops stationed at the State-house and request his assistance in clearing the lobby. The motion was adopted. A committee of five, of which Mr. Dupre was made chairman, was sent to wait upon General De Trobriand and soon returned with that officer, who was accompanied by two of his Staff officers. As General De Trobriand walked down to the Speaker's desk loud applause burst from the Democratic side of the House. General De Trobriand asked the acting Speaker if it was not possible for him to preserve order without appealing to him to preserve order as a United States Army officer. Mr. Wiltz said it was not, whereupon the General proceeded to the lobby, and addressing a few words to the excited crowd, peace was at once restored. On motion of Mr. Dupre, Mr. Wiltz then, in the name of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, thanked General De Trobriand for his interference in behalf of law and order, and the General withdrew.

The Republicans had now generally withdrawn from the hall, and united in signing a petition to the Governor, stating their grievances and asking his aid, which petition, signed by fifty-two legally returned members of the House, is in my possession.

Immediately subsequent to the action of Mr. Wiltz in ejecting the clerk of the old House, Mr. Billien moved that two gentlemen from the Parish of De Soto, one from Winn, one from Bienville, and one from Iberia, who had not been returned by the Returning Board, be sworn in as members, and they were accordingly sworn in by Mr. Wiltz, and took their seats on the floor as members of the House. A motion was now made that the House proceed with its permanent organization, and accordingly the roll was called by Mr. Trezevant, the acting clerk, and Wiltz was declared Speaker, and Trezevant Clerk of the House.

Acting on the protest made by the majority of the House; the Governor now requested the Commanding General of the Department to aid him in restoring order, and enable the legally returned members of the House to proceed with its organization according to law. This request was reasonable, and in accordance with the law. Remembering vividly the terrible massacres that took place in this city on the assembling of the Constitutional Convention in 1860, at the Mechanics' Institute, and believing that the lives of the members of the Legislature were, or would be, endangered in case an organization under the law was attempted, the posse was furnished, with the request that care should be taken that no member of the Legislature returned by the Returning Board should be ejected from the floor. This military posse performed its duty under directions from the Governor of the

State, and removed from the floor of the House those persons who had been illegally seated, and who had no legal right to be there; whereupon the Democrats rose and left the House, and the remaining members proceeded to effect an organization under the State laws.

In all this turmoil, in which bloodshed was imminent, the military posse behaved with great discretion. When Mr. Wiltz, the usurping Speaker of the House, called for troops to prevent bloodshed, they were given him; when the Governor of the State called for a posse for the same purpose and to enforce the law, it was furnished also. Had this not been done it is my firm belief that scenes of bloodshed would have ensued.

P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieutenant-General.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brig.-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.
Fort Abercrombie.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Abercrombie, D. T., January 14. The following officers of the Seventeenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Colonel T. L. Crittenden; Captain W. M. Van Horne; First Lieutenants H. S. Howe, T. G. Troxel, W. P. Rogers, J. M. Burns; Second Lieutenants D. H. Brush, Alexander Ogle. Captain C. E. Bennett, judge-advocate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Broadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.
Fifth Infantry.—Leave of absence for one month, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was January 2 granted Captain H. B. Bristol (Fort Dodge, Kas.)

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon W. E. Sabin, U. S. Army, was ordered January 3 to proceed, without delay, from Fort Leavenworth, Kas., to Fort Gibson, I. T., reporting for duty.

Leave of absence for twenty days was January 4 granted A. A. Surgeon H. S. Kilbourne, U. S. Army (Fort Gibson, I. T.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Broadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Neb.
Deserters.—The commanding officer of each regiment serving in this Department will send to D. J. Cook, Esq., Superintendent Rocky Mountain Detective Association, Denver, Colorado, descriptive lists of all men who may have deserted from their respective regiments, while serving in the Department of the Platte, from the first day of January, 1871, to the date of receipt of December 17. Hereafter, upon the desertion of any soldier in this command, the commanding officer of the post or detachment, from which the desertion occurs, will send, by the first mail, a copy of the man's descriptive list to Mr. Cook. The commanding officer of Fort D. A. Russell, will, from time to time, on notification from Mr. Cook, send a guard, under command of an officer, to Denver to obtain such deserters as may be in custody there. These deserters, on arrival at Fort D. A. Russell, will be sent by the commanding officer, under proper guard, to their respective companies or stations.

Twenty-third Infantry.—Company D, Twenty-third Infantry, was January 7 relieved from duty at Fort D. A. Russell, and ordered to proceed by rail to Fort Fred. Steele, and there take post.

Payment of Troops.—The payment of troops was January 7 ordered to be made in the following order, viz: Fort Sanders, Fort Steele, Fort Bridger, Camp Douglas, Fort Cameron, including troops on detached service from that post, Camp Stambaugh, Camp Brown, Fort Hall, Idaho.

Medical Department.—Upon the recommendation of the medical director of the Department, A. A. Surgeon E. J. O'Callaghan, U. S. Army, was January 5 ordered to report, in person, in Omaha, to the medical director of the Department, for annulment of contract.

Fort D. A. Russell.—At the request of Major A. J. Dallas, Twenty-third Infantry, temporarily in command of Fort D. A. Russell, a board of officers was ordered to convene at that post on the 8th instant, to examine into and report upon all circumstances connected with the destruction, by fire, January 4, of twelve sets of officers' quarters at that place. Detail for the board: Colonel Joseph J. Reynolds, Third Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel Cuvier Grover, Third Cavalry; Acting Assistant Inspector-General; Captain John J. Coppinger, Twenty-third Infantry. The board will also examine into and report upon the character of the buildings burned and the measures necessary to be taken to ward against similar conflagrations in the future.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-Gen. C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.

Quartermaster's Department.—Leave of absence for one month, to take effect when his services can be spared by his post commander, was December 13 granted Captain A. G. Robinson, Assistant Quartermaster. (Fort Sill, I. T.)

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon W. B. Van Duzen, U. S. Army, was ordered December 23 to Deming, Texas, and thence to camp of Company G, Twenty-fourth Infantry, for temporary duty.

Ninth Cavalry.—Second Lieutenant John Conline was December 29 assigned to temporary duty at Department Headquarters—to date from Dec. 24, 1874.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky
Second Infantry.—Captain H. C. Cook was January 6 released from arrest and ordered to return to duty.

First Artillery.—Leave of absence for thirty days was January 6 granted First Lieutenant Daniel D. Wheeler, St. Augustine, Fla.

Raleigh.—A General Court-martial was appointed to

meet at Raleigh, N. C., January 14. Detail for the court: Captain Frank B. Hamilton, Second Artillery; Assistant Surgeon F. LeB. Monroe, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants E. T. C. Richmond, John H. Gifford, Second Artillery; Second Lieutenants Wright P. Edgerton, Second Artillery; George L. Turner, Eighteenth Infantry. First Lieutenant William Stanton, Second Artillery, judge-advocate.

St. Augustine.—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at St. Augustine, Fla., January 18. Lieutenant-Colonel Henry M. Black, Eighteenth Infantry, and the following officers of the First Artillery were detailed for the court: Captain Royal T. Frank; First Lieutenants James L. Sherman, H. W. Hubbell, Jr.; Second Lieutenants Arthur Murray, Henry M. Andrews. First Lieutenant John C. White, judge-advocate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

Seventh Cavalry.—Before a General Court-martial which convened at Monroe, La., and New Orleans, La., and of which Colonel P. R. De Trobriand, Thirtieth Infantry, is President, was arraigned and tried: Second Lieutenant B. H. Hodgson, Seventh Cavalry.

Charge I.—"Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." Specification 1st: That on October 25, 1874, being in command of a detachment of U. S. Troops, serving as a "posse comitatus," to protect Deputy U. S. Marshal Edgar Selye, in the execution of his office, he, in assisting the said Deputy Marshal to serve a process on one J. G. Huey, a citizen of the United States and a resident of Vienna, in the State of Louisiana, used unnecessary and unbecoming violence, and showed unbecoming zeal, by drawing his pistol on said Huey, and threatened to shoot him, and otherwise behaving in an unsoldierly and unbecoming manner. Specification 2d: That he assisted in the arrest of Huey, and after the said Huey had been brought to the town of Vienna, and properly secured, under a guard of soldiers, in the upper room of the Court House, he, said Huey, requested a member of his guard to see Deputy U. S. Marshal Selye who was in the yard below, and asked him to come up and read the warrant for his arrest, that he might be informed as to the nature of the offence with which he was charged; that said Second Lieutenant B. H. Hodgson, on hearing the soldier deliver the above message to the Deputy Marshal, rose from his seat and went up stairs into the room in which said Huey and other prisoners were confined, and ordered the soldiers on guard there to level their guns at said Huey, which they did, and at the same time drawing his own revolver and presenting the same close to the body of said Huey, said, "this is my authority," meaning his revolver, and "these," pointing to the loaded guns in the hands of the soldiers, and which were aimed at the body of said Huey, who was unarmed and defenceless, thereby meaning also to have it understood that he had made the arrest himself and held the said Huey in custody by his own will, and that of the armed force under his command. All this to the scandal of the service and to the uniform he wore, and in gross violation of the honorable traditions of his profession, and in flagrant violation of his duty and professional obligations of an officer and a gentleman. Specification 3d: That being present when a writ of habeas corpus was served on Deputy U. S. Marshal Edgar Selye, issued by the Hon. J. E. Trimble, Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District of the State of Louisiana, for the production, before the said Judge of certain prisoners, then in the custody of said Deputy U. S. Marshal, for the purpose of enquiring into the cause of their detention and imprisonment, he sent the following violent, insubordinate, indecent, and offensive message to the said Judge, by the Sheriff of the Parish of Jackson, who had served the said writ: "Give Judge Trimble my compliments and tell him to go to hell. Tell him next time to send three papers. I would like one to shave with, one to light my pipe, and one to use when I go to the privy;" or words to that effect, at the same time displaying his revolver.

Charge II.—"Violation of the 54th Article of War." Specification: That while on the march with his command, he maliciously and without authority, and in violation of the Statute Law of the State of Louisiana, destroyed a portion of the telegraph wire, the property of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and also the property of inhabitants of the United States, by cutting the same, in one or more places, and twisting portions of the wire around the stumps of trees, thus interrupting telegraphic communication between remote sections of the country, and to the interruption of the business of said Telegraph Company.

Charge III.—"Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." Specification: That while in command of the detachment, he on various occasions, and at different times, got so much under the influence of intoxicating drink, as to materially impair his usefulness as an officer, and unduly excite his mind and irritate his temper. To the first charge and specifications the accused pleaded not guilty; to the specification, second charge, "Guilty," except the words, "maliciously and without authority, and in violation of the Statute Law of the State of Louisiana," and to the excepted words, "Not Guilty;" to the second charge, "Not Guilty;" to the third charge and specification, "Not Guilty." The court found him of the first specification, first charge, "Not Guilty;" of the second specification, first charge, "Guilty," except the words, "and order the soldiers on guard there to level their guns at the said Huey, which they did." And the words, "and these," pointing to the loaded guns in the hands of the soldiers, and which were aimed at the body of said Huey." And the words, "meaning thereby also to have it understood that he had made the arrest himself and held the said Huey in custody by his own authority, and of his own will, and that of the armed force under his command. All this to the scandal of the service, and to the disgrace of the uniform he wore, and in gross violation of the honor-

able traditions of his profession, and in flagrant violation of his duty and professional obligations as an officer and a gentleman; and of the accepted words, "Not Guilty." Of the third specification, first charge, "Guilty," excepting the words, "send the following violent, insubordinate, indecent, and offensive message to the said Judge, by the Sheriff of the Parish of Jackson, who had served the said writ: 'Give Judge Trimble my compliments and tell him to go to hell. Tell him next time to send three papers. I would like one to shave with, one to light my pipe, and one to use when I go to the privy,' or words to that effect; at the same time displaying his revolver, which message was indecent and highly unbecoming an officer and a gentleman and calculated seriously to impair the administration of justice and bring the same into disrepute and contempt." But substituting therefor the words, "use the following vulgar and indecent language regarding the said writ: 'that if such a paper were served upon him he would use it when he went to the rear, and that he would tell the Judge to go to hell,' or words to that effect." And of the excepted words, "Not Guilty." And of the substituted words, "Guilty." Of the first charge, "Not Guilty," but "Guilty" of "Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline;" of the specification, second charge, "Guilty," excepting the word, "maliciously," and therefore attach no criminality thereto; of the second charge, "Not Guilty," of the specification, third charge, "Not Guilty;" of the third charge, "Not Guilty."

Sentence.—The court sentenced him "To be reprimanded in General Orders from Department Headquarters. The court is so lenient in consideration of the good character and record of the accused; and of his inexperience, which has been taken advantage of, in the circumstances of the present case." The proceedings of the General Court-martial in the foregoing case having been submitted to the Department commander, the following are the orders thereon: In the case of Second Lieutenant B. H. Hodgson, Seventh Cavalry, U. S. Army, the proceedings are approved. The finding of the court show great leniency to the accused, and give him the benefit of every doubt, particularly so in the case of the language found to have been used, by him against a civil officer in good standing; but in consideration of the very novel circumstances under which Lieutenant Hodgson was suddenly placed without any previous experience, the findings are approved, and the sentence is confirmed. It is very difficult to suppose that an officer who bears such testimonials from his commanding officers, and companions in arms, could be guilty of conduct so subversive of good order and military discipline, and so nearly approaching an infraction of the 83rd Article of War." Lieutenant Hodgson, is released from arrest and restored to duty with his regiment, where it is hoped he will strive to regain the good standing which he undoubtedly held before the commission of the errors which have been proven against him. The General Court-martial of which Colonel P. R. De Trobriand, Thirteenth Infantry, is president, is dissolved.

Second Lieutenant B. Hodgson, Seventh Cavalry, was January 5 detailed as member of a General Court-martial previously constituted.

Third Infantry.—The commanding officer of the troops at Monroe, La. (Company B, Third Infantry, and A. A. Surgeon J. G. Barnett, U. S. Army), was January 4 ordered to immediately break up the post at Monroe and proceed with his command to Vicksburg, Miss., and there take post.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Hdqrs, New York.

Officers Registered.—The following officers were registered at headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the week ending January 10, 1875: Captains George L. Choisy, Eleventh Infantry; Mott Hooton, Twenty-second Infantry; George F. Price, Fifth Cavalry; M. J. Fitzgerald, Ninth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Wm. B. Wetmore, Sixth Cavalry.

Third Artillery.—Captain Abram C. Wildrick, and First Lieutenant Abram G. Verplanck have been detailed members of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Wood, N. Y. H.

Fort Preble.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Preble, Me., January 20. Assistant Surgeon Philip F. Harvey, Medical Department, and the following officers of the Fifth Artillery were detailed for the court: Major Truman Seymour; Captains John R. Brinckle, Gulian V. Weir; First Lieutenants Elbridge R. Hills, Adjutant, J. Escourt Sawyer. Second Lieutenant Rollin A. Ives, judge-advocate.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdqrs San Francisco, Cal.

Officers Registered.—The following-named officers registered their names at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, during the week ending Tuesday, December 29, 1874: Assistant Surgeon A. D. Wilson, Medical Department; First Lieutenant James Halloran, Twelfth Infantry; A. A. Surgeon S. A. Freeman, Medical Department.

Eighth Infantry.—The leave of absence for one month granted Second Lieutenant William H. McMinn, by Headquarters Department of Arizona, Nov. 19, 1874, was December 26 extended one month, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General for an extension of one month.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Fourth Artillery.—Second Lieutenant George H. Paddock and Clarence Deems was December 28 relieved from duty at Alcazar Island, Cal., and will report to the commanding officer of the Presidio of San Francisco for duty with their respective companies.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Brig.-Gen. Oliver O. Howard: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon. Medical Department.—Hospital Steward Herman Nebelsieck was December 24 assigned to duty at Fort Townsend.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Information having been received from the Adjutant-General of the Army, by telegram of the 17th of December, that Second Lieutenant Henry DeW. Moore, then in Portland, would be relieved from the operation of S. O. No. 236, par. 8, c. s., A.-G. O., was December 19 ordered to rejoin his station, Fort Walla Walla.

The Secretary of War has transmitted to the Senate a communication from Major-General J. M. Schofield respecting the repeal of the law which forbids promotion in the staff of the Army. The President in his annual message of this year recommended to Congress the passage of an act to repeal the law in question, and, as it is understood that bills have already been introduced in Congress opening appointments and promotions in the Adjutant-General's and Pay Departments, the Secretary recommends that a general measure be passed on the subject which shall include also the Quartermaster's Department.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Dec. 11, 1874.

To the Hon. Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

DEAR SIR: I beg your favorable consideration of the question of inviting the attention of Congress to the effect of the act, now in operation nearly five years, forbidding promotion in the staff of the Army. This act, stopping advancement in rank, has been repealed in five corps, yet still bears upon three—the adjutant-general's, the paymaster's, and the quartermaster's—directly affecting at this time twelve officers—three in the Adjutant-General's Department, two in the Pay Department, and seven in the Quartermaster's Department. The act, as it stands to-day, has been reduced, you will observe, to nearly a personal measure.

I therefore solicit, Mr. Secretary, your intervention in behalf of the officers concerned and of their corps and the military service in general, by recommending to Congress the repeal of an act which stops the advancement by promotion of officers who are, in consideration of their long and useful public services and excellent character, entitled to the reward the country holds out to military men, and which the few whose advancement has been so long stopped eminently deserve.

I beg to suggest the question of reorganizing the corps is quite different from, and should properly be considered independent of, the question of promotion. When Congress decides there are too many officers in any grade of a corps and limits the number, the question of promotion in that corps is no longer an open one. But in the corps referred to the number of officers now is, and for years has been, below the organization allowed by law; nevertheless, the law of promotion is in force and exists, except for those who are entitled to its benefits in those corps. Pray, Mr. Secretary, use your influence to have repealed that provision of a law which for a long time has borne hardly upon some very talented and meritorious officers, the question of reorganizing the corps being left for the after consideration of Congress. Very respectfully,

J. M. SCHOFIELD, Major-General.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

Commodore Geo. H. Cooper assumed command of the Pensacola yard on the 9th inst.

The following named officers sailed January 5th, in the U. S. S. *Acapulco*, for the further survey of the Isthmus of Darien: Lieutenants J. G. Eaton, J. T. Sullivan; S. C. Paine; Assistant Surgeon Norfleet.

The *Kansas* arrived at Curacao, December 15, six days from Samana Bay, where she left the *Ossipee*. Health of officers and crew reported good. The *Kansas* expected to sail December 17, for La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, and Aspinwall.

The semi-annual examination of the apprentices at the Boston Navy-yard, took place on the 6th inst., before an examining board consisting of Commander Thomas R. Selfridge, Assistant Naval Constructor John F. Hanscom and William Hichborn, Foreman of the Joiners. Most of the boys passed a creditable examination.

The boilers for the *Marion*, ten in number, have arrived at the Portsmouth Navy-yard, from New York, together with a lot of machinery, stores, etc. The tug *Portfire* was accidentally sunk at the wharf, caused by her rail catching under a timber. With the assistance of two of the steam fire engines attached to the Yard she was pumped out, and raised without any damage.

At a meeting of the recently discharged employees of the Washington Navy-yard (500) a petition was adopted, addressed to Congress, asking that action may be taken by which they shall be provided with employment, thereby relieving themselves and families from suffering. A correspondence was directed to be opened with the employees of other Navy-yards, in order to secure their co-operation.

From the Boston Navy-yard we have the following items up to Jan. 2: Commander Belknap will relieve Commander Richard L. Law, in command of the receiving ship *Ohio*, on the 15th Dec. Retrenchment

being in vogue at this naval station the pay of watchmen had been cut down to that of day laborers. The new revenue cutter *Gallatin*, just built at Buffalo, N. Y., had been lying at the Navy-yard testing her machinery. The new sloop of war *Bozer* was in the dry dock. The sloop of war *Wachusett* lately arrived, had been put out of commission and dismantled.

The following is a list of the officers attached to the Panama Expedition, under the command of Commander Edward P. Lull: Commander Edward P. Lull; Lieutenants E. H. C. Leutze, H. G. O. Colby, E. W. Very, E. D. Taussig; Masters, J. H. Coffin, Green; Civil Engineer, A. G. Menocal; Assistant Surgeon, J. T. Bronsford; Assistant Paymaster, Clark; Draughtsman, J. B. Philp; Commander's Clerk, J. E. Buck; Rodmen, Polemen, etc., John H. Westerfield, Robert S. Burnett, H. Lisle Fleming, Charles A. Smith and Mancil Philp.

CAPTAIN S. P. CARTER, commanding U. S. S. *Alaska*, under date of Spezia, December 16th, reports to the Secretary of the Navy as follows: I regret to inform the Department of the sudden death of Wm. H. Rickards, carpenter U. S. N., which occurred on the morning of the 14th inst., at the Port of Longue, Isle of Ella. He was buried yesterday, with customary ceremonies, in the Protestant cemetery at that place. In announcing the death of this officer, I cannot forbear to express my sincere regret at his loss, as he was most efficient, and won the respect of all on board by his correct habits, his obliging disposition and his gentlemanly bearing.

The annual report of the Commander of the school ship *Mercury* shows that the number of boys on board on Jan. 1 was 247. Of these, 213 boys have been received since Jan. 1, 1874; 173 have been discharged, 20 were transferred to other institutions, 10 "eloped," 2 died, and 55 have been shipped in seagoing vessels. During the year the ship has been at sea 146 days, touching, during the winter cruise, at Madeira, Barbadoes, Trinidad, Martinique and St. Thomas, and during the summer cruise, at New London, Guilford, Newport, Gloucester and Sandy Hook. Among the naval officers who visited the ship was Sir Lambton Lorraine, of the British navy; Capt. Clark Wells, U. S. Navy, the latter giving proof of his interest in the school-ship by enlisting ten of the boys in the sloop *Shenandoah*. "A year ago," says the report, "the plan was adopted of admitting no boy to the ship until his parents or guardian had been consulted and their consent obtained, no boy being admitted for a greater misdemeanor than petit larceny." No boys have been discharged until they merited, by good conduct, the approval of the officers. That this plan has worked well is shown by the fact that out of 173 boys discharged this year, but five have been returned to the ship. A very small number of vagrant boys have been received—a circumstance which is regretted by the Commander. Camillo Chili, one of the first boys received in 1869, is now in command of a Spanish ship, and several others have risen to the positions of first and second mate.

THE *Panama Star and Herald*, of January 2, says: The Hydrographic office of the U. S. Navy has undertaken to make use of the Sub-marine Cables uniting various West Indies and South American ports to determine the longitudes of these places by telegraphic method, which is the most accurate known. At present many places are suspected to be wrong on the charts several miles. This work is, therefore, highly important both for the interest of navigation and correct geographical knowledge. The benefit is for all nations, and it is fit that the U. S. Navy should do the work, since the method is of American origin and has been perfected and in constant use in the United States for many years. It is known as the American method. The work is under General Orders from Secretary Robeson, of the Navy, and more especially under the direction of Commodore Wyman, in charge of the Hydrographic office. The work is done by Lieutenant Commander F. M. Green, commanding the U. S. steamer *Fortune*, assisted by Professor Miles Rock of the Hydrographic office, and the other officers of the vessel. The Astronomical Instruments employed were specially designed for this work by Professor J. A. Rogers, of the U. S. Hydrographic office, and Lieutenant Commander Green, and were constructed at the office in Washington. They are a combination of the transit, zenith telescope and alt-azimuth. A star of the 7th magnitude is easily visible by it. The axis is hollow, and at one pivot is the lamp for illuminating the threads of the reticule in the focus; at the other pivot is the eye-piece where the beam of light from the star is reflected by a triangular glass prism fixed in the middle of the hollow axis. This enables the observer to occupy the same position for observing stars at all altitudes. The work at Panama and Aspinwall has proved the instruments to work admirably. The rest of the outfit for each station consists of a Morse register on which the transits of the stars are recorded automatically; as also the seconds beats of the chronometer, and also the time signals from the second Station, by comparing which with the seconds recorded at the first Station, is found, after application of clock and instrumental corrections, the difference in time between the two Stations, that is their difference in longitude; a sidereal chronometer; a mean time chronometer; a galvanic battery to record the seconds of the sidereal chronometer on the fillet of the register, sextant, theodolite, and compass. During the past week time signals were exchanged between Panama and Aspinwall on four nights, and at each station twenty or more stars were observed to determine the chronometer and instrumental corrections. Thus over three hundred determinations of their difference of longitude have been made; and as each signal is recorded automatically on the register, so that it can be read off within the one hundredth of a second of time, an idea may be formed of the almost absolute correctness of the final

result. In the longitude work the instrument is used as a transit to determine the exact local time. The party at Panama will use theirs for the next four nights (the longitude work being completed) as a zenith telescope to determine the latitude. This method of determining latitude is also of American origin and usage, and is by far the most accurate known. The latitude is thus determinable within a few feet. As soon as these latitude observations are completed, Prof. Rock's party will move to Aspinwall, and Captain Green will go to Kingston, Jamaica. The next two Stations will probably be Kingston and Santiago de Cuba; then Havana; then Key West, where the longitude has already been determined to Washington, and thus the longitude of all the stations from Washington and Greenwich becomes known. Another year the work may be continued to the eastward in the West Indies, and to southward along East and West Coasts of South America, wherever the cables and land lines reach. Master Thos. C. Spencer, U. S. Navy, is Mr. Rock's astronomical assistant, and has charge of the observatory and business matters; Ensign Dimock, U. S. Navy, assists Captain Green; Ensign Bartlett, U. S. Navy, assists in computations.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY 7.—Boatswain Peter Johnson, to the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.
JANUARY 9.—Master John W. Danenhower, to the Naval Observatory.
JANUARY 11.—Midshipman Henry F. Reich, to the Brooklyn.
JANUARY 12.—Masters John P. Wallis and Lewis E. Bixler, to the Asiatic Station per steamer of 30th inst.
Master S. H. May, to the Roanoke.
JANUARY 13.—Paymaster Henry T. Wright to the Benicia on the 1st February next.
Acting Carpenter John S. Waltmeyer, to the receiving ship New Hampshire, at Norfolk, Va.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 7.—Lieutenant Henry R. Baker has reported his return home, having been detached from the Saco, Asiatic Station, on the 26th November last, and placed on sick leave.
Master Jerome B. House has reported his return home, having been detached from the Ashuelot, Asiatic Station, on the 26th November last, and has been placed on waiting orders.
JANUARY 9.—Lieutenant Commander Joshua Bishop has reported his arrival home having been detached from the Benicia, North Pacific Station, on the 15th ult., and has been placed on waiting orders.
Assistant Engineer Wm. Rowbotham has reported his return home, having been detached from the Hartford, Asiatic Station, and has been placed on waiting orders.
JANUARY 11.—Master Frank W. Nabor, from the Brooklyn, and ordered to examination for promotion.
JANUARY 12.—Lieutenant R. M. Cutts, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, and ordered to the Portsmouth.
Lieutenant W. O. Sharer, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Benicia on the 30th inst.
Lieutenant T. M. Eiting, from the receiving ship Potomac, at Philadelphia, and ordered to the Benicia on the 30th inst.
Lieutenant George E. Ide, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Asiatic Station per steamer of 30th inst.
Lieutenant Wm. Little, from the receiving ship Potomac, and ordered to the Asiatic Station per steamer of 30th inst.
Master D. D. V. Stuart, from the Roanoke, and ordered to the Asiatic Station per steamer of 30th inst.
Lieutenants Joseph Marthon and Wm. H. Webb, Masters H. L. Tremam and T. D. Bolles, and Ensign J. A. H. Nickels, from the Asiatic Station on the reporting of their reliefs, and ordered to return home and report arrival.
JANUARY 13.—Paymaster Edwin Putnam on the 1st February next, and ordered to proceed home and settle accounts.

RESIGNATION MODIFIED.

The resignation of Lieutenant Cyrus W. Breed, which was to have taken effect on the 31st ult., was so modified on the 28th ult. as not to take effect until the 30th April next.

APPOINTED.

Charles H. Jones, of New York, an acting sailmaker in the Navy.
John J. Byrne an acting sailmaker in the Navy.

DISMISSED.

Boatswain John Quinn.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of absence of Lieutenant-Commander John R. Bartlett has been extended three months.
The leave of absence of Passed Assistant Paymaster Charles D. Mansfield has been extended six months.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending January 13, 1875:
William Palmer, landsman, December 29, 1874, Naval Hospital, New York.
Charles Betts, seaman, December 18, 1874, Naval Hospital, Mare Island, Cal.
John Nelson, beneficiary, January 7, 1875, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.
James McNulty, marine, January 7, Naval Hospital, Chelsea.

NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.

The following nominations have been confirmed by the Senate:
John C. Howell to be chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks from September 22, 1874.
Commander Daniel L. Braine to be a captain from December 11, 1874.
Lieutenant-Commander John W. Philip to be a commander from December 12, 1874.
Master Lewis E. Bixler to be a lieutenant from December 1, 1874.
Ensign Landon P. Joubert to be a master from December 1, 1874.
Passed Assistant Surgeon James M. Flint to be a surgeon from September 13, 1874.
Passed Assistant Surgeon George A. Bright to be a surgeon from September 13, 1874.
Alvin A. Austin to be an assistant surgeon from October 6, 1874.
John Sullivan Begg to be an assistant surgeon.
Richard A. Urquhart to be an assistant surgeon.
Passed Assistant Paymaster George H. Griffing to be a paymaster from October 3, 1874.
Assistant Paymaster John Breese to be a passed assistant paymaster from October 3, 1874.
Passed Assistant Paymaster Albert W. Bacon to be a paymaster from October 23, 1874.
Assistant Paymaster Lawrence G. Boggs to be a passed assistant paymaster from October 23, 1874.
Second Lieutenant Edward T. Bradford to be a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps from August 30, 1874.
Second Lieutenant Albert H. O'Brien to be a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps from November 29, 1874.
Henry Whiting and Le Roy C. Webster to be second lieutenants in the Marine Corps from July 1, 1874.
Mordcait T. Endicott to be a civil engineer from July 13, 1874.
Brownell Granger to be a civil engineer from July 14, 1874.
Ascleto C. Medocai to be a civil engineer from July 14, 1874.

THE CONDITION OF THE NAVY.

Speech of Mr. Archer, of Maryland, on the Naval Appropriation bill, in the House of Representatives, December 22, 1874:

Mr. Chairman, we stand to-day in a most humiliating position, considering the high ground we have taken, first in proclaiming the Monroe doctrine, second in claiming exemption from the right of search, on which matter we went to war with England in 1812, and assert that we are ready to do so against Spain should she interfere with vessels bearing our flag. At this moment we are without suitable ships, without guns, and without men to man the few vessels we have; and only by accident have we been saved from a humiliating war, in which the people of the United States would have been greatly disappointed in the results. Everybody has been led to believe that we had one hundred and sixty-nine ships of war, when we have really thirty-two sea-worthy steamers and eight iron-clads. With these our officers are expected to contend against a navy fitted with all the modern improvements, having eight or ten heavy sea-going iron-clads, fourteen or fifteen large and swift frigates, besides four or five very heavy sea-going iron-clads rapidly advancing to completion. And here arises a difficulty we must always experience in cases of sudden emergency. No doubt in the course of a great war, when our commerce was laid up, we would ultimately be able to man a number of ships, not with such seamen as are required for immediate action, but with material that could be worked into shape in the course of three or four months.

An army, as has been demonstrated time after time, can be improvised almost immediately from the rawest material. It is merely teaching men to load and fire a musket and drill, and manoeuvre in companies and regiments. This can be fairly learned in two weeks, although of course it takes time to make a perfect soldier. But it requires months of constant drill to enable a ship-of-war to be prepared to hold her own in action against the well-drilled and well-maneuvred war-vessels of the present day.

Congress allows the Navy but eight-five hundred seamen, which many suppose are all employed at sea, but a large portion are necessarily stationed in receiving-ships, store-ships, school-ships, transports, navy-yard tugs, etc., and but a small force is left to man the vessels actually employed in active service. Many of our ships abroad are sixty men short, and few of them have their proper complement. Can any one expect a frigate of four hundred men to contend successfully with one of five hundred? Common sense would convince any one of the absurdity of this.

In all these matters, as we seem to have no originality, we must adopt the ideas of foreigners, at least those whose defeats have taught them the necessity of perfect system in organizing their navies.

We have had some remarkable successes against great odds. In 1812 we obtained advantage over England with our handful of frigates, because she was then neglecting the very matter that we are neglecting now, in not educating seamen expressly for the Naval Service, and it was not until the navy of France under the late emperor had reached a point of excellence it never before attained, that the English determined to reorganize their system and educate their own seamen. The apprentice system was established, and now all the ships of the British navy are manned with native seamen, from whom are made up the ordinary seamen, seamen gunners, and petty officers. The English have at present in commission thirty-four vessels devoted to the purpose of naval training, including twelve ships of the line for training apprentices, eight tenders to the same, four large ships for gunners' practice, and nine ships and one tender for coast-guard drill, and it is now proposed to extend this system to the North American colonies, where England has a reserve of eighty thousand seamen.

From these facts it will be seen how little attention we have paid to matters of so much importance. When we fit out a ship, men are picked up haphazard at different naval rendezvous, at least 50 per cent. being foreigners with little or no interest in the country or devotion to the flag and ready at the first favorable opportunity to desert. A ship going to sea in a hurry, manned by such a heterogeneous mob, without sufficient time to properly station her men or instruct them in their duties, would fall an easy prey to an enemy's vessel of much inferior size. The frigate *Colorado* was not long since taken from the row of vessels, laid up a sheer hulk, and fifteen days afterward she sailed fully manned and armed for Cuban waters. Her crew only went on board four days before she sailed, and no country could reasonably expect a ship to fight under such circumstances and not disgrace her flag.

The best officers of the Navy could not even work the men into their places, much less instruct them in the art of loading, aiming, and firing in the short space of time allowed the crew. The crew of a vessel would not know their places and would be a mere target for a well-drilled enemy's shot.

We keep constantly at sea thirty-four vessels, or just about the number of training-ships alone in the British navy, while she maintains in commission on foreign and home stations two hundred vessels of all classes. The thirty-four United States ships are scattered all over the globe, never more than six being allotted to one station. These six vessels are again scattered so that they seldom if ever come together in one squadron.

How are officers to perfect their elves in fleet sailing and battle formations under such circumstances; and what chance would they have of contending with a well-drilled force of foreign ships, for now almost all sea fighting will be done in order of battle? What chance would a regiment of soldiers composed of companies hastily brought together without previous training stand in a contest with a well-drilled force of equal numbers? And yet it is much more important that ships should be thoroughly trained in fleet tactics before attempting to give battle to an enemy's squadron.

Fleets are nowadays manoeuvred in battle under steam as troops are upon land, and a single false move would throw a whole line into confusion and make the ships an easy prey to an enemy. The British, French, Russians, and all other people of any naval pretensions, except the Americans, have large practice squadrons constantly employed in drilling officers and men. The British Channel fleet is composed of twenty-five of their heaviest iron-clads, which are kept so constantly in motion that all manoeuvres are like clock-work. In this way a thorough knowledge of the art of war is gained by officers and men throughout the service, and ships can join any squadron and at once take their place in line and perform the duty required of them. The same may be said of French and Russians. And what kind of ships do we give our officers and men to fight with? A style of vessels that have been ruled out of the line of battle by every other naval power, and which would not withstand the shock of battle on the ocean for fifteen minutes.

What chance would our old wooden frigates that cannot steam more than six knots an hour stand against the heavy iron-clads of European navies? Suppose a line of battle formed of ships like ours, and an enemy of half their number, heavy iron-clads and powerful rams, with a speed of twelve knots, were to come down upon them, breaking the line to pieces and crushing every vessel with which they came in contact, what chance would there be of success for the old wooden vessels; and what is the use of sending such ships to sea when their officers know that defeat is certain in case they have to encounter the new style of vessel?

We lay great stress on our "iron-clad monitors," as they are called, which really only admonish us of our weakness. Those vessels were built solely for harbor defence and smooth water, and they rely on their light draughts, which enables them to run into shoal water and avoid the crushing power of a ram, such as all foreign ships carry, but in a sea-way they are almost helpless. They cannot raise their turrets to train their guns, for the water would rush in and sink them; they cannot manoeuvre to avoid an enemy, for they have no speed. Their guns are good enough of their kind, but have no range; and though all the rest of the world has adopted the rifle up to the 35-ton gun, we have nothing of the kind in our Navy beyond some 100-pounders, which proved worthless during the late war, doing more damage to friends, by bursting, than they ever did the enemy.

We have then, it would seem, in our Navy nothing on which to depend except the officers, who are well educated in the art of war, and have shown in the past what they will do in the future, even against great odds. But is it fair to send these men to fight the battles of the nation and expect them to win when they have nothing on which to depend?

We are not accustomed to defeat; and in case of disaster during a foreign war our naval officers would be sacrificed to public opinion, and the blame that would fall on them should fall on Congress, whose duty it is to see that the Navy is in condition to meet any demands made upon it. At present our Navy will do to redress grievances against the small South American Republics, which have neither forts nor ships, or will answer to protect our missionaries among the South Pacific Islands, but in other quarters of the world its appearance is only a confession of our weakness.

Foreigners see the same old ships bearing the United States flag that they have been looking at for the last twenty years, with no advance toward the improvements of the present day. And when foreign officers come over here to examine our monitors, they write home that they are not up to the improved type. If foreigners have imitated them in any way, they have avoided their defects and constructed better vessels. There is no evil, however, for which there is not a remedy, and it may be asked what it is proposed to do?

Since 1790 we have expended \$1,379,450,000 and have not now in the Navy a single ship that can be called a proper fighting vessel of war, although we have about thirty-eight that would do good service in destroying an enemy's commerce, although not fit to go into battle against vessels of the new type. During the same period Great Britain has built fifty-four heavy iron-clads, besides adding to her navy a large number of superior cruising-ships, and has kept in commission two hundred vessels of various classes since 1861 at an expense of \$490,000,000, exceeding our expenditures since that time by \$50,000,000, but having the most effective navy in the world to show for it.

Our system of naval administration provides for a civilian as Secretary of the Navy and eight bureaus, with line officers at the head of four of them, and a surgeon, paymaster, constructor, and engineer at the head of the other four, all acting by authority of the Secretary. Previous to the establishment of the bureaus the affairs of the Navy were managed by the Secretary and a "board of Navy Commissioners," composed of three line officers of the highest rank, with whom was associated a naval constructor of the first ability. When this board was abolished in 1842 the Navy then on hand was acknowledged to be the best of its size in the world, and its personnel and discipline was unequalled. From the day the board was abolished the Navy commenced to retrograde, and the harmony and unity of action which characterized the operations of the board seem not to exist in the present bureau system.

The great mistake in the reorganization of the Navy Department was in not retaining the Board of Commissioners to plan, with the bureaus to execute.

At present the bureaus may be likened to a balky team, without a professional head to guide them. One man plans and executes in his own department without responsibility to any one, and carries out his individual ideas, which may or may not be good ones. For instance, a constructor plans a ship, and an engineer

plans an engine for her without regard to the opinion of the constructor.

The Chief of Ordnance may plan a battery much heavier than entered into the constructor's calculations, and there being no harmony in the different plans, the ship may be a failure.

While the Chiefs of Bureaus can exercise the most arbitrary power under the shield of the Secretary's authority, the inferior positions of chiefs of Navy-yards and stations, over which they exercise control, have hitherto been filled by officers of high rank and experience, who entered the Navy long before the Chiefs of Bureaus. In granting authority to the head of the Navy Department to appoint bureau officers, the law authorized him to descend even to the list of commanders to find the person supposed best suited to the position. The object of this law was to enable the Department (in 1862) to ignore the older and more experienced officers and appoint those whom the Secretary of the Navy could easily control, and during the greater part of Secretary Welles's administration a civilian ruled the bureaus with an iron hand and committed innumerable professional blunders at a cost to the country of many millions.

How different is the British navy department, which is composed of—First, a civilian, member of Parliament, occupying somewhat the position of our Secretary of the Navy; second, an admiral; third, a captain; fourth, a rear-admiral (comptroller of the navy); fifth, an earl, House of Peers; sixth, first secretary; seventh, second secretary. These are styled "the commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of England," etc. Under their direction is the secretary of the admiralty, contract and purchase department, department of the comptroller of the navy, superintendent of naval stores, department of director of transports, hydrographic department, department of the accountant general, department of the medical director-general, department of the director of engineering and architectural works, director of education for admiralty, royal observatory at Greenwich.

These latter offices assimilate to our Bureaus, but are subject to the supervision of the professional and mixed board which stands at the head of the list; and to this circumstance may be attributed the success of the British in maintaining a very large navy at little greater expense than we keep up a small one. Take away the board of admiralty, even with its defects, and the same difficulties would be experienced as in our case. A less efficient system would prevail, and the expenses of the British navy would be doubled. The first lord of the admiralty can appear on the floor of Parliament and make all necessary explanations regarding the navy and meet all attacks of the opposition. It was doubtless originally intended that our Secretary of the Navy should exercise similar powers, but Congress only extended that privilege to the Secretary of the Treasury, who, by the law of 1789, is authorized to appear on the floor of Congress and explain his acts or requirements.

The system of naval administration in England and France assimilates somewhat with our own, although with a better subdivision of labor. Indeed, our Navy Department was modeled on the plan of the two above mentioned, although it has now come somewhat to the condition of the play of Hamlet with the part of the Prince of Denmark omitted. Had the board of commissioners been retained under the law of 1842, to direct the Bureaus on Naval Affairs proper, we should have had as good a system as could be desired, with a little better subdivision of labor.

In all European navies professional men supervise naval affairs, notwithstanding there may be a civilian at the head of the department directing its political and financial management. Compare the results with those obtained under our system and note the difference.

We have not an efficient ship of war of the new style; we have no rifled guns that are worth anything; our enlistment system is the poorest in the world; we have not a marine-engine in the Navy that can propel a ship nine knots, with the exception of that in the *Florida*, which takes up the whole interior of the vessel.

Our Medical and Commissary Departments are fair for the size of our Navy, but up to 1870 the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing continued to serve out shoddy raiment and bad food to the sailors in defiance of the protest of the board of inspection.

The detailing of officers for duty is imposed on the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, who has already onerous duties to perform and has to bear the odium of ordering senior officers to positions not acceptable to them, which orders should emanate from a higher source. Of course the Secretary of the Navy is consulted about the appointment of higher officers, but the duty of detail should devolve on officers of higher grade, who would be familiar with the character of all those in the Navy, and from whose decision there should be no appeal, as there is at present. Yet it is not so much the fault of individuals as it is of the system. If a civilian were to be put into command of a ship of war, with ever so reliable officers to assist him, she would be a very indifferent ship of war; or if a naval officer were to be put at the head of the judiciary, it must be a very poor judiciary. "Every one to his trade" is an axiom no one will dispute.

To make the Navy what it should be the board of naval commissioners should be re-established, under any name that may be thought advisable, and clothed with the duties proposed for the board of survey, a bill to establish which once passed the Senate, viz., "to advise and assist the Secretary of the Navy"—

1. To detail officers.
2. To have charge of the Naval Academy.
3. To draw up rules and regulations for ships, yards, and stations, subject to Secretary's approval.
4. To examine plans of ships, steam-engines, and public works.
5. To examine and approve all contracts.

6. To make annually a full report to the Secretary of the Navy of the condition of the Service, with necessary recommendations for its support and improvement.

7. To examine and correct the allowance-books from time to time.

8. To recognize the apprentice and enlistment system.

9. To visit and examine the Navy-yards annually or oftener, if necessary.

10. To examine the evidence in courts-martial.

11. To make the necessary alterations in ordnance, equipments, navigation supplies, and clothing from time to time, and to report from time to time to the Secretary of the Navy such matters as come under their observation for the improvement of the Navy.

When such a board of officers is established, and not before, will we have an efficient Navy like that required by a nation of forty million people, with a constantly-increasing commerce and an immense extent of coast open to the inroads of any ordinary naval power. The three senior Line officers on the active list should be the members of the proposed board, of which the Secretary of the Navy should be *ex officio* president, the senior officer acting as president in the absence of the head of the Department and signing all reports made to him.

There should be three associates, namely: a Naval Constructor, an Engineer, and an officer with the rank of Captain, the last-named to be the secretary of the board. When this is done, the Navy will require nothing more for years in the way of naval administration.

The best feature in the organization of our Navy is the Naval Academy, which theoretically possesses all the requisites for turning out accomplished officers. It has, however, important defects, which would be remedied when the proper naval organization was established. Here the young cadet is taught everything relating to his profession, and is imbued with proper ideas of discipline and the respect due his superiors. When he graduates from the Academy, he is presumed to have the ground-work of a naval education, only waiting for an opportunity to put in practice the theories he has learned. But what is the poor youngster's disappointment when he comes in contact with the real Service. He finds himself on board a ship which he has been taught to believe unfit for fighting purposes and which his reason tells him is the case. He finds the crew, whom he had expected to see perfect specimens of American tars, a heterogeneous mob of men of different countries, the native element not being sufficient to indicate the nationality of the ship. The wholesome laws established by Congress to maintain discipline he finds so curtailed by the departmental authority that offences are often committed with impunity. Perhaps his Captain is an inefficient officer, who has for years indulged in drinking to excess, and who has been passed by his present position by an examining board unable to find anything "on record" against a person notorious throughout the Navy as having disgraced it for years. Our youngster finds the discipline bad, the officers with no heart in their duties, the guns not suited to cope with the improved ordnance of foreign navies, the crew, without distinctive uniform, clothed in shoddy. Executive and other officers have been ordered to the ship without regard to their efficiency, and the only things to distinguish the vessel as an American man-of-war are the officers and the flag at the peak.

This is hardly an overdrawn picture of some of our ships of war when first fitted for sea; for it is on board of such vessels that young officers, the future commanders of our ships and fleets, receive their first impressions of active service. Their after experience is little better. There is no system of instruction for young officers to compel them to put in practice what they have learned at the Academy, and what they acquire in after life must be due to their native energy and love of knowledge. It is not uncommon when midshipmen are ordered to their final examination on their return from a cruise that two out of seven fail from ignorance of the practical part of their profession. So the thing is carried on from grade to grade until that of rear-admiral is reached, and the occupant is often incapable of performing his duties.

All this is for the want of a naval head to look after matters. A civilian Secretary of the Navy, no matter how clever, cannot be expected to understand in four years the details of a Service which it costs an officer a life time to master. The Secretary of the Navy, being the member of a party and of a political turn of mind, naturally directs his chief attention to the political status of the Navy, to the neglect of some matters with which he is little or not at all familiar, and the Navy Department being considered an inferior office in the Cabinet, is regarded as a stepping-stone for something better. But few of the men who have held the position of Secretary of the Navy have comprehended the wants of the Service even after an experience of eight years, the longest period any one has held the office. They have all committed great mistakes on first assuming office for want of a competent advisory board to assist them in the performance of their delicate duties.

Some Secretaries have endeavored to form an advisory board by assembling the Chiefs of Bureaus together and listening to their opinions. But these gentlemen are naturally in favor of anything emanating from their own Departments.

Here, then, you have a complete account of the Navy, with its defects, requirements, and a plan for its reorganization; and he who can introduce and perfect a system that will make the discordant elements now ruling the Navy work in harmony will reap a well-deserved reputation, and will have performed a distinguished service for his country. Before closing I will add a few remarks in relation to the yearly appropriations made for the Navy, to show that they are amply sufficient if judiciously applied.

—Mr. Chairman, the great leak in the administration

of the Navy-yards of the country arises from a vicious system that has grown up, not confined, I am sorry to say, to the republican party alone, but which was practiced even in the days of democratic rule—a system of turning the Navy-yards into political machines about the time of elections. Now, the fact of the matter is that one or two months before an election the Navy-yards are crowded, not with mechanics, but with all kinds of broken-down politicians, who go there to draw their per diem until the day of the election, when they are expected faithfully to vote the party ticket.

The evil existed under democratic as well as republican administration; and this evil, Mr. Chairman, never will be remedied until this Congress shall pass a law limiting the number of employees in the Navy-yards. Whatever party may be in power will use these Navy-yards as political engines; but whenever Congress will pass a law of that kind, we shall have a regular set of skilled mechanics in the Navy-yards of this country from one end of the year to the other. If the peace establishment could be once ordered by Congress the number of laborers allowed to the Navy-yards should be as follows:

	Mechanics.
New York or Brooklyn	1,000
Boston	800
Philadelphia	800
Norfolk	800
Washington	800
Portsmouth, New Hampshire	600
Pensacola	300
Making, all told	4,900

These, at an average of three dollars a day per man, would amount to \$4,542,300 per annum. This, including the amount called for to support the civil establishments of the Navy-yards, would be \$4,880,300; add \$1,000,000 for material in Construction and Engineer Department, and we have \$5,880,300 for labor and timber. Ordnance and torpedo corps should be cut down to \$500,000 yearly for gradual increase and improvements in artillery; coal, hemp, and equipments to \$1,100,000; hydrographic work to \$110,000. We should buy our charts. Provisions and clothing should be cut down to \$1,438,000, for the clothing is returned to the Government as the sailors pay for it; contingent expenses of various bureaus, etc., should be reduced to \$1,000,000, and the various expenditures mentioned in the appropriation. Each bureau should be put down for everything required, and have no such general contingent. Printing and binding should be cut down to \$50,000. There is great waste in these items. Then the appropriations for the Navy would stand thus:

Pay of officers and seamen	\$6,400,000
Pay of civil establishments, Navy-yards	338,000
Ordnance and torpedo corps	500,000
Coal, hemp, and equipments	1,100,000
Navigation supplies	134,000
Hydrographic work	110,000
Naval Observatory, Nautical Almanac, etc.	64,000
Repairs and preservation of vessels	3,000,000
Steam machinery tools, etc	2,000,000
Timber, etc	1,000,000
Provisions	1,400,000
Repairs of hospitals, etc	40,000
Surgeons' necessaries	40,000
Contingent expenses of various departments ..	1,000,000
Naval Academy	193,458
Marine Corps	1,177,311
Printing and binding	50,000
Naval Asylum, Philadelphia	51,650
Total	\$18,598,419

The difference between this sum and the amount called for in 1873 is \$1,558,328, which could be applied to gradual increase of the Navy for iron-clads, and in ten years would build us seven large vessels of this class, capable of carrying the heaviest guns.

In all these calculations, I have made large allowances for pay of mechanics, and have provided for twice as many as would be employed in private yards to do the same work. The great leakage, in fact, is our Navy-yards, where no man does more than two-thirds of a day's work, and in times of political excitement men are crammed into the yard simply for the purpose of carrying an election! This custom will continue until the master-workmen are borne on the Navy Register as warrant officers, hold their appointments during good behavior, and are subject to court-martial.

If Congress would appropriate besides this, \$2,000,000 annually for some years, for the gradual increase of the Navy, and specify that it is for the construction of iron-clad vessels of not less than three thousand tons, we would in a few years have as good a Navy as could (for ordinary purposes) be desired. We can never compete with France and England in iron-clad ships, and must depend upon perfecting the torpedo for means to keep the navies of those powers out of our harbors.

In all my remarks I desire to reflect upon no person, and only find fault with a system under which the Navy can never prosper, no matter how clever may be those who administer its affairs. In this opinion I am upheld by every officer of the Navy, excepting perhaps the few who occupy the positions referred to, and it would be hardly natural to expect them to acknowledge the present system wrong, fearing to reflect upon themselves, although in reality they are not to blame, as they doubtless make the most of their positions.

At a stated meeting of Massachusetts Commandery M. O. L. U. S., held January 6th, 1875, the following were elected companies of the Order for the First Class: Brevet Brigadier General Samuel E. Chamberlain, Charlestown, Mass.; Second Assistant Engineer (Lieutenant) William H. Badlam, late U. S. N., Dorchester, Mass.; Captain Richard Waterman, Artillery, Providence, Rhode Island; Second Lieutenant Andrew T. Macmillan, Volunteers, Artillery, Providence, Rhode Island; Captain William H. Seaman, Providence, Rhode Island; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles H. Hooper, Boston.

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From the Army and Navy Journal of Jan. 31, 1874.

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OUR OFFICERS AT NEW ORLEANS.

IN answer to a Senate resolution of the 8th of January, the PRESIDENT, on the 13th of January, sent to that body a Message, giving "information as to any interference by any military officer or any part of the Army of the United States with the organization or proceedings of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, or any branch thereof, and also in regard to the existence of armed organizations in that State hostile to the Government thereof, and intent on overturning such Government by force." The Message is a calm and judicial presentation of the facts in regard to the condition of affairs in Louisiana, which have led to the military interference with the Government of that State, under the requirements of the 15th amendment to the Constitution and the laws passed in pursuance thereof. That lawlessness, turbulence and bloodshed have characterized the political history of Louisiana since its reorganization under the reconstruction act, is a fact too well known to require more than its mere statement. That this lawlessness demanded Federal interference to check it, the PRESIDENT argues at

length. "That the courts of the United States have the right to interfere in various ways in State elections so as to maintain political rights therein irrespective of race or color is," he says, "comparatively a new, and to some seems to be a startling idea, but it results as clearly from the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution and the acts that have been passed to enforce that amendment, as the abrogation of State laws upholding slavery results from the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution." And whatever the mistake of a particular judge, so long as his decision stands as the decree of a United States Court, it is the duty of the Executive to enforce it to the extent of his power. "Whatever," says the PRESIDENT, "may be said or thought of those matters, it was only made known to me that the process of the United Court was resisted; and as said act specially provides for the use of the Army and Navy when necessary to enforce judicial process arising thereunder, I considered it my duty to see that such process was executed according to the judgment of the court."

It was thus that our military authorities at New Orleans found themselves charged with the unpleasant duty of maintaining by force of arms the authority of what is known as "the KELLOGG administration," a duty which they have discharged wholly regardless of those considerations of political expediency or advantage by which it is inevitable that their conduct should be judged. "I repeat," says the President in concluding the Message, "that the task assumed by the troops is not a pleasant one to them, that the Army is not composed of lawyers capable of judging at a moment's notice of just how far they can go in the maintenance of law and order, and that it was impossible to give specific instructions providing for all possible contingencies that might arise. The troops were bound to act upon the judgment of the commanding officer upon each sudden contingency that arose, or wait instructions which could only reach them after threatened wrongs had been committed which they were called on to prevent."

The manner in which this discretion committed to our officers at New Orleans has been lately exercised, has been made the occasion of the most violent denunciation of them, and of the administration under whose order they act, for an alleged interference with the sovereign authority of a State Legislature. And the argument against them is made as conclusive as possible by the short and easy process of assuming the facts upon which it is based, instead of obtaining them by the slower process of inquiry. Such an inquiry will convince every candid man that whatever mistakes may have been made at New Orleans, the charge upon which the denunciation of the military authorities chiefly rests, that of interfering with a legislative body, is without foundation. The fact of the appearance of a United States officer in uniform in the legislative halls of Louisiana, has been made use of with great dramatic effect, to create popular prejudice against the effort of the Federal authorities to control the lawlessness which seeks to register the decrees of "the best citizens," in opposition to the action of what the Constitution and laws of the United States require us to recognize as the people of Louisiana.

But that General DE TROBRIAND or any other officer has had any purpose of interfering with the "Legislature" of Louisiana, no sensible man believes, and we doubt whether many such have been sufficiently misled by the interested statements published through the press, to believe that he did so interfere. Mr. E. W. STOUTON, an able member of the New York bar, in a review of the facts of the case published in the New York Times, well says, that even if Governor KELLOGG and our Army officers, enforcing his authority, did not take the strictly correct course, in dealing with the men who had attempted to secure the control of the Legislature of a State, honest men will not be overnice in requiring the observance of technicalities. Governor KELLOGG should, Mr. STOUTON thinks, when appealed to by some of the members of the Legislature, to prevent the illegal seizures of the legislative functions by the mob of self-declared representatives, "have advised these members to take with them the old Clerk, and go again to the House, and direct him again to call the roll of members, with a view to a lawful organization. Had they been resisted in this, he should

have employed the force of the State to aid them; and, had this been insufficient, he should then have called upon the military force of the United States to protect the State from domestic violence, for no violence can be more destructive to a State than that which seeks to prevent the meeting and lawful organization of its Legislature. That in such case he would have been strictly correct in making this requirement cannot be doubted, for he may make it when the Legislature cannot be convened, and it clearly cannot be convened when it cannot be organized."

It is not unlikely that a somewhat different course of action might have prevented some of the outcry against military despotism, military usurpation and the like with which the country has been made to ring, but we doubt whether one of these prophets of evil really believes that our liberties are in danger because of anything that has occurred at New Orleans. And if there are in Louisiana armed bands of men who refuse to recognize the control of the legally constituted authorities and who seek by intimidation and violence to carry out their own purposes they are precisely what General SHERIDAN has called them, wisely or unwisely, and that is "banditti," and no resolutions of citizens or denunciations of stump speakers can make them anything else. A mob that hangs a horse thief is not the less a mob because it visits righteous vengeance upon one of the pests of an imperfectly organized community, and no sympathy with the purposes the "White Leaguers" may profess should blind the community to the danger of their organization.

It is safe to say that for the past six or eight years, fully one-half the recruits received into the Army have deserted. In the last two years 1873-4 the number of desertions has decreased in a very remarkable degree, and now that the Army is reduced to its legal limit and recruiting has been resumed, it becomes a matter of interest and importance to inquire what has caused this decrease in desertions, and whether or not by judicious management they cannot be still farther reduced.

An examination of the record of a single regiment, and it is presumed not an exceptional one, develops the fact that it had in the year 1870, 169 desertions. In the next year the number was increased to 179. The following year the number fell off to 136, and the year after it is remarkable that the number was only 46; a falling off in one year of nearly two-thirds. As the regiment occupied very nearly the same stations in 1873 that it did in 1870 and 1871, it is worth while to inquire into the probable cause of this remarkable reduction. Since every effect can be referred back to its antecedent cause, and the reduction of desertions from 179 in 1871 to 136 in 1872 is very nearly 25 per cent., and in the following year nearly 75 per cent., we naturally look for the cause in the year 1872. All communities are more or less affected by the laws made for their government, and as the circumstances surrounding the regiment cited have not changed in other respects, we must look to the law as the producing cause.

On the 15th of May, 1872, was approved the best pay bill which the Army has ever had. This bill, grading the pay between non-commissioned officers and privates, recognises, for the first time in a proper manner, the fact that the longer a meritorious man serves in the Army the more valuable he becomes to the military service, by offering inducements to such men to remain, in the way of increased pay, which becomes greater the longer they remain in service. The increased pay is retained and paid to the soldier on his discharge, and is forfeited unless he shall have served honestly and faithfully to the date of his discharge. This furnishes a powerful incentive to honest and faithful service, and another is added by the provisions of the deposit act, approved the same day. By this act a soldier can deposit his savings with a paymaster in sums of five dollars and over, receiving on such deposits a stated rate of interest. The money so deposited with the accrued interest is paid to the soldier on his discharge from the service. It is held as a trust by the Government, which is liable for the amount, and the money is not liable for the soldier's debts, cannot be forfeited by sentence of courts martial, but is forfeited by desertion. To these two admirable laws, by one of which the Government is constituted a savings bank in which the

thrifty soldier can deposit his savings at interest, are we undoubtedly indebted for the decreased desertions in the Army. All harsh enactments against the crime of desertion, all stringent orders and increased punishments awarded would not compare in effect with that produced by these two laws, making it the interest of the soldier to serve honestly and faithfully till the end of his term. The prime object of all laws should be the prevention of crime, and this not merely by providing a punishment for its violation, but also by making it the interest of the individual to obey its provisions. It is a characteristic of human society that men, with few exceptions, are governed by their selfish self-interest, and with very many "the hope of reward is greater than the fear of punishment." When, therefore, the fear of punishment was the only inducement, or almost the only one held out to enlisted men in the Army, the desertions were numerous. Now, that the hope of reward is added, the number decreases.

The report of the Paymaster-General shows that the total deposits under this law, during the first year after it went into effect, was \$209,850, and the next year \$346,600, showing an increase of sixty-five per cent, and the number of deposits has more than doubled, being for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June last 4,971, or between one-fifth and one-sixth the number of enlisted men in the Army. In a single regiment the number of deposits for that part of the year 1872 from the passage of the law to the close of the year, was eight, and the amount, \$1,398; in 1873 it was forty-nine, and the amount, \$9,429; in 1874 it is in eight months eighty-four, and the amount, \$12,082; the total amount, \$22,909. This result is certainly very gratifying, and it is safe to predict that the number of deposits will steadily increase, more especially if the rate of interest allowed should be increased to 5 or 6 per cent.

G. O. No. 126, from the Adjutant-General's office, Nov. 20th, 1874, gives important information, and lays down some good rules in regard to enlistments in the Army. Now is the most favorable time for the Service to obtain a better class of men. The vast majority of the recruits entering the Service, enlist in the vicinity of the large cities, especially those of the East, and a very large per centage of the deserters will be found to have enlisted there. In the large majority of enlistments made in large cities it is impracticable to obtain the requisite information in regard to the character of the men. In the country towns this is more feasible, and besides, the class of men there is better. If the recruiting rendezvous in the large cities should be broken up and transferred to small country towns, the improvement in the quality of the recruits would, we are satisfied, be immediately discernible. The number of men obtained in this way would of course be much smaller, but the question is, would they not amply make up in quality and length of service for their lack of numbers? General SHERMAN, in the memoir published in the JOURNAL, spoke in the highest terms of Wisconsin troops, and attributed their superiority to the fact that the old regiments from that State were kept filled up by recruits, instead of new men being placed in regiments by themselves. This undoubtedly had a great influence, but there were other considerations which tended to produce that result. When the war opened Wisconsin had been a State only thirteen years, and comparatively few of her men were natives of the State; hence a large proportion of her "war material" was composed of young, energetic men from other and more Eastern States, crowded out of more populous communities to seek their fortunes in the great West. To such men it was no hardship to sleep out in the open air, even in bad weather; no novelty to go without a meal now and then, and they knew how to shoot a rifle as well as to handle an axe. In other words they were already half soldiers when they entered the Service. These remarks apply with more or less force to all the new States of the West, and no one who had the opportunity to observe can have failed to notice the superiority of the regiments raised in the country districts, especially of the West, over those coming from the great cities, particularly of the East. Give us then for our Army "country boys." They make better soldiers, have better habits originally, and are more tractable. When it becomes known amongst these that our Military Service is not a mere receptacle for all the ruff-scuff of the great cities, foreigners

and others who enter the Army in many cases for no other purpose than to get free transportation to a new country and then desert, that gambling, drinking, and obscenity are not the characteristics of our enlisted men; that manhood and respectability are fostered amongst them; that they are protected and not insulted and imposed upon by their officers; that the longer they stay in the Army, the better their condition becomes; that promotion to the grade of a commissioned officer does sometimes take place, and that hundreds of thousands of dollars are yearly deposited by thrifty men, in the safest of all savings banks—the hands of the Government itself—and the recruiting officers will soon find it is an easier question to decide who to reject than who to accept as a recruit.

Desertion amongst enlisted men is to a certain extent the result of a lack of sentiment against the crime, especially when some officers are known to entertain the opinion that the act does not constitute perjury, but is simply an ordinary violation of a contract. Where this impression gains a footing, men even of some considerable amount of intelligence and honorable feeling will not attach much importance to the crime, inform against its contemplation, or aid energetically in capturing deserters. More especially will this be the case, where the criminal is supposed to be the victim of either the injustice or cruelty of his officers. And in this connection it may be well to remark that the most stringent laws and orders on the subject are of no effect in the Army unless commanding officers, especially post commanders, attend strictly to their duties, and enforce discipline throughout their commands. The Army is a body which should be governed strictly by law. If this barrier against injustice to the weak is once broken down, by commanding officers' permitting the law to be violated by any one, discipline will fail, and demoralization and discontent surely follow. The laws provide, as a general thing, fitting punishments for all offences, and there is neither necessity nor propriety in allowing any one to take the law into his own hands, as has been only too often the case in times past and is so still to a certain extent. No commanding officer should permit the infliction of any punishment at his post not strictly the consequence of a legal process, and we think we can confidently assert that the best discipline will be found at those posts where such things as "tying up," gagging and log-carrying are unknown. Where such practices do exist, the numerous inspectors constantly making tours throughout the Army ought to be able to discover them, and by reporting put an end to them.

If the Adjutant-General of the Army would issue every year a General Order giving the number of desertions from each regiment in the Service, it would supply important information, be the means of stimulating a just pride in the various regiments, and give some indication of the kind of discipline enforced in each. If to this the Paymaster-General would add a circular giving the number of men in each regiment who yearly make deposits under the law of 1872, and the total amount deposited, we would get some indication of the beneficial effects of the law, and the manner in which that law affects discipline.

Everything should be done in the Army itself to render the crime of desertion odious amongst the men, and create a popular opinion against it. To this end it should be prohibited, without the consent of the highest authority, to re-enlist any man who had ever been a deserter, and no deserter should ever under any circumstances be made a non-commissioned officer. If it be objected that this is closing the door too much against reform, the reply is that a man who shows so little moral sense as to desert is in the first place unfit for the responsible position of a non-commissioned officer, and the existing evil has become so great in the Army that some radical steps are required to put an end to it. When the evil has in a measure been abated the rigor of the rules adopted might be softened with good effect, but until such a point has been reached the disability for deserters should be made as great as possible.

THE annual meeting of the Army and Navy Club was held at the Club House, 21 West 27th street, on Tuesday evening, January 12th, the president, General HAKCOCK, in the chair. The

following were elected to fill vacancies in the board of managers: General HORATIO G. WRIGHT, U. S. A., General HENRY PRINCE, U. S. A., General PATRICK H. JONES, General LLOYD ASPINWALL, Commander PICKING, U. S. N., Colonel TREICHEL, the present treasurer, and General McQUADE.

SINCE the invention of gunpowder, after the long military barbarism of the Middle Ages, war has become an exact science, demanding special training. This state of things has made soldiering a regular trade, but incompatible with other trades; and a skilful soldier in time of peace finds his occupation gone like Othello's, unless he seek foreign climes. During the wars between Greece and Persia, when war was first carried on under rules of science, soldiers of fortune were plenty in Persian armies. They were all Greeks, the only men who then understood war. In later times, after PYRRHUS taught the old Romans how to fight, the Greek soldier of fortune performed the same kind of office for Carthage, and HANNIBAL studied from Greek models. After the fall of Rome, in the long night of the dark ages, the art of war suffered just as other arts did, and war during that period is largely a history of mob fights without generalship, strategy, or tactics, blind slaughters leading to nothing. The first dawn of science in mediæval warfare is seen in the campaign of Cressy under EDWARD III., and with scientific warfare came the trained soldier of fortune once more, whether we call him the BLACK PRINCE and DUGUESCLIN fighting on opposite sides in Spain for DON PEDRO and the TRASTEVERINO, or FRA MOREALE and the CONSTABLE DE BOURBON in Italy, fighting for and against Pope and people. The essential feature that strikes us in the dawn of civilized warfare, is the superiority of the trained officer over the feudal baron and the esteem in which his services are held in all countries. WALLENSTEIN, MONTECUCULI, PRINCE EUGENE, SAXE, STEUBEN, all are examples down to the present century of the highest type of the soldier of fortune, whose talents and courage command the applause and gratitude of the nations they serve.

Of late years the field of the soldier of fortune has contracted its limits. The Austrian service, once full of foreigners, has few on the list, and all the other nations of Europe are somewhat jealous and restrict the prizes of military life to their own natives. In the East, the case is still different, and both Turkey and Egypt are now well provided with foreign officers. The former has chiefly affected Englishmen, and there only in the navy to any extent, while her policy is to educate her own officers as fast as possible. The Khedive of Egypt, on the other hand, has shown a marked preference for American officers, of whom his general staff is now composed, almost to the exclusion of other nationalities. That he finds this procedure wise, is evident from the results. His experience with Sir SAMUEL BAKER and that with "CHINESE GORDON" and Colonel LONG are very sharply contrasted. Sir SAMUEL took away some twenty-two hundred men, stayed nearly three years, and finally failed in the object of his expedition, as his own book confesses. He allowed KABBA RÉGA, a very dirty black king, to abuse, cheat, insult, and finally to drive him out of his territories, narrowly escaping with his life, and losing many men. Colonel LONG meets the same KABBA RÉGA, repulses and demoralizes him, having only two men to the savage's four hundred. For this gallant deed he has been lately promoted, and the Khedive seems to be so much enamored of his American officers that he has despatched two other expeditions to the interior, both commanded by Americans. As Americans, the officers of our Army will doubtless take pride in remembering that our countrymen abroad are in nowise behind their European rivals as regards skill and daring.

In a private letter to a friend in this city, a gentleman travelling in Egypt says of the Americans in the Army of Egypt:

"I saw STONE at Cairo—he is very busy and very useful. The Khedive has a very high opinion of him. He likes the work, and is no doubt well suited for it. PUNDY is doing excellent service, and is one of the very best (if not the best) of STONE's subordinates. He has done a great deal of valuable work in the way of exploration on the desert, and has recently left Cairo on a two years' exploration to Darfour, which will carry him to the Equator and South of the Albert Nyanza. The Khedive spoke to me in the highest terms of his American officers, and said he wanted more of them. . . . He spoke in glowing terms of the performance of Colonel LONG and of all this young American on his monthly pay and with two armed men, had done to develop the geography of Central Africa, and to extend the moral influence of Egypt."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good fee ing.

"AN EPISODE OF THE WAR."

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: An article entitled "An Episode of the War," by W. S. Andrews, published in that new, and in many respects charming holiday book, "Lotos Leaves," calls for some notice, simply on account of the respectable company in which it is found. It pretends to narrate the circumstances attending the naval boat-assault on Fort Sumter on the night of September 8, 1863, but is in a large measure destitute of truth. Indeed its most important statements are sheer fabrications from beginning to end.

The essential features of the article are given in the following extracts. The writer says, "I was the officer in charge of the signal-station at General Gillmore's Headquarters on Morris Island, where we had taken the Rebel forts Wagner and Gregg, and were waiting for the Navy to complete the work."

"One day, early in September, 1863, at about noon, the general directed me to signal to the admiral the information that he would assault Sumter by boats that night. Much to my surprise there was returned in a few moments, an answer to the effect that the admiral had himself planned to assault Sumter that night by boat from the fleet, and asking 'if the general had not heard of his intention to do so.' The general replied that he was 'very much surprised,' had no idea that a boat assault was intended by the Navy. Then followed a series of messages to and fro. Each was sorry that he had done anything to interfere with the other, each thought it 'very strange that both had hit upon doing the same thing on the same day,' each would gladly withdraw in favor of the other, etc., etc., 'but the orders having been given, the men being ready,' etc., etc. Then it was proposed that both parties should unite under the command of one officer, and, 'being an expedition by water, the admiral thought the general would at once see the propriety of giving a naval officer the command.' The general 'would be delighted certainly, the Army forces would be under the command of Brigadier General Thomas Stevenson, who would act under the orders of any naval officer of equal rank that the admiral might designate.' (At that time there was no such officer in the fleet except the admiral himself). The admiral was delighted, 'his force would be under the command of Captain—acting commodore.' 'The general was sorry, but an acting commodore was not a commodore, and could not therefore rank with a brigadier general, and of course General Stevenson could not take orders from an inferior officer,' etc., etc. After some further correspondence on the subject, the admiral admitted that he could not send the ranking officer, but 'he had failed upon research and reflection to find any precedent for putting a naval officer under the command of an army officer, and so the expedition must go independent as to command, but he would co-operate.' The general 'regretted this, but,' etc., etc.

It is perhaps needless to say that the foregoing pretended extracts from the messages which passed between Admiral Dahlgren and myself are fabrications, each and all of them. The quotation marks are Mr. Andrews's.

These ten or twelve alleged despatches were neither sent nor received, and there are only two, or possible three, of the fictitious extracts, which bear any resemblance, either in letter, tone or spirit, to the few genuine signals and other despatches interchanged. The essence of the entire paragraph is untruth.

Moreover, my first notification to the admiral of the contemplated Army assault was not sent, or attempted to be sent, by signals, but was carried by an aide-de-camp, and Mr. Andrews never saw it at all. The retained copy is in my possession. Mr. Andrews further says that in consequence of the "great difficulty in transmitting the signals, owing to the absence of the regular signal officer of the flagship from his post," I sent him to the admiral "with full instructions" to "arrange the details verbally." That he "found no difficulty" in reaching a "full and perfect understanding with the admiral" as to the plan of the assault, and that he brought back to me the following verbal message: "Tell General Gillmore that my boats will start at nine, or later should he desire it. If he wishes delay you can signal me to that effect."

This is a fiction of Mr. Andrews's imagination. He was not sent by me "with full instructions," or with any instructions, or authority, to arrange any of the details of attack, but simply to carry a despatch which he had failed to transmit by signals, and he never brought me the foregoing verbal message from the admiral, or anything like it. No details of a combined attack were arranged by any one. A watchword was agreed upon to prevent collision on the water, and nothing more, and this was sent the admiral by a messenger, and afterwards communicated to one of his Staff officers at my Headquarters.

Mr. Andrews also says: "I was a little surprised that the naval boats, which were not to have left the flagship until nine, should have reached the fort a little after eight. I afterwards learned that the moment I left the admiral he gave orders that his boats should start as soon as it was dark."

On the contrary, the Navy boats, according to the official reports, left the fleet in tow of a tug about ten—some report says at about 10.30—cast off from the tow about midnight, and reached the fort soon after. The journal of the defence of Fort Sumter, kept by its commanding officer, Major Elliott, confirms the Navy reports, that the attack was made after midnight.

Mr. Andrews again says: "General Stevenson got

away soon after eight. He had perhaps fourteen hundred yards to pull, which would take at least twenty minutes. I was, therefore, a little surprised about ten minutes after he started to hear a brisk fusillade from the fort."

This is all pure fiction. General Stevenson did not "get away soon after eight." At that hour, and at nine o'clock, and ten o'clock, and later, the boats containing the troops were detained in the creek west of Morris Island by low tide, and no fusillade occurred at Fort Sumter until the naval assault was made soon after midnight. It was expected that the Army column would start at midnight on a two hours' flood, dead low water having occurred at ten, or, to be exact, five minutes past ten.

Mr. Andrews begins his article by saying: "I think there is but one other person who knows all the facts," "certainly they will never find their way into history unless this account goes into print;" and he adds in a foot-note the following: "I find no mention of this assault in the Rebellion records, or in any of the official reports of General Gillmore or Admiral Dahlgren."

"My official record book containing the correspondence by signals was borrowed by General Gillmore and never returned."

On the contrary, the assault, and the correspondence preceding it, are prominently mentioned in my published official report, and a detailed statement of the affair is on file in the War Department; and the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy for 1863, contains the official reports of the assaults submitted by Admiral Dahlgren and the several subordinate commanders engaged in it, with full particulars concerning the object for which it was made, the hour of making it, the strength of the assaulting column, and the lists of the killed, wounded and missing. Moreover, there are several persons now living who, at the time, knew much more about the attack, and the brief and in every way proper correspondence preliminary thereto, than Mr. Andrews possibly could, even if we adopt his own estimate of the importance of the part he played in it.

I did not retain Mr. Andrews' record book, and never had it in my possession, except a few moments occasionally for reference. It may have been taken by the assistant adjutant-general, in which case it doubtless will be found among the records of the Department of the South, where, and not in Mr. Andrews' possession, it properly belongs.

Other portions of this remarkable production are reserved for future reply, which, if you wish, will be made in connection with an accurate account of the assault, drawn exclusively from official sources which are within the reach of any searcher after the truth.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

NEW YORK, January 12, 1875.

RETIRED OFFICERS—ONCE MORE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: When, in our more infantile days, we listened to the sad history of the "Children in the Wood," with the doings of the wicked uncle, who left them to perish in the wilderness, it is not to be denied that our tears fell thick and fast. Perusing, however, the lucubrations of your correspondent "Army," with the melancholy chances set forth by him to befall retired officers, who should come to be again upon duty, we own to it, our tears descended both thicker and faster—though whether from grief irrepressible, or mirth that, like murder "would out," we have not for the present to declare. Here, then, we have those officers, who probably long before the advent of "Army," were actors in the scenes of the wars that make our history, bidden to halt in trepidation with the prospect of being ordered "perhaps a thousand miles to perform some temporary duty, with only actual travelling expenses allowed them," or to quake in their Bluchers, under the contingency of being left by an "Uncle," equally nefarious with the above, "in a strange place, with few or no friends, there to await orders, on retired pay only." We might dwell for a moment on the fact, that, inasmuch as the officers in question have for several years "awaited orders on retired pay only," they ought by this time to have become accustomed to it—even as the eels did to being skinned; but, passing on, we will simply say, that had "Army" but gone a single step further, and introduced *per se*, the traditional robin, to shroud with leaves the lifeless bodies of these, the ancient innocents of his diatribe—the picture must need to have been complete.

Unquestionably, the major part of the communication of "Army" is designed simply to divert attention from the main issue; for which plain reason, of course, we find him bouncing off from his points, at as many angles as a grasshopper in a meadow. One or two things, however, it may be as well to give a passing notice.

In the first instance, then, it is a matter of secondary importance whether the retired officers be, or not, accorded their former privilege of assignment to duty, on application, which is really the only point made by them. Wherefore, having invited the attention of Congress to the fact, that a better economy might be to afford them, through the legislation asked, the opportunity to do more for the allowance not liberally apportioned them, their mission in the case need properly to close. But that retired officers had, and have, the right to petition for "redress of grievance," real or fancied, is simply a guaranty of the Constitution—"impertinent" though it seem to "Army."

If, again, in his remarks touching courts-martial, as gotten up for retired officers, "with seldom a case to try," "Army" refers to the court-martial so long in session at New York City, it can be stated, for his information, that, under the proper orders, that court was held for duty for months, "without regard to hours," extending after its sittings into the twilight of the longer days, so emphatic was the pressure of business brought before it.

Or if, as assumed, courts martial were, in any direction, "organized solely for the purpose of giving retired officers full pay, with little or no duty to perform, whom is it "Army" proposes to impeach? Officers of the retired list, the generals commanding departments in which the courts were concerned, or the War Department itself, which recognized the whole? "Army" will find that there is in this portion of his argument some rather ticklish ground, from which it might be wise in him to retire in season.

Neither does it strike "Army," that to exhibit among the cadets at the Military Academy, as instructors, and the like, those of "our unfortunate brother officers who have been disabled in the Service," can do other than "check military ardor," on the part of said young gentlemen. We have heard of the inebriate, pretty well "disabled" in the war with the mighty Barleycorn, who proposed to let himself out to accompany a temperance lecturer, as an "awful example." In this line of business, and as adjunct to the Peace Society proper, there is no doubt many of our "unfortunate brother officers" might become an investment worthy the capital. In view, however, of the lessons needful to be impressed upon the rising generation of our heroes, and the sterner realities they are in no sense to blink or forego, the notion put forward by "Army" in this regard, might be open to some exception. And this, in point of its mere honesty, if in nothing else. Perhaps "Army" is alarmed, lest some such stampede should take place among the "Plebes," on the appearance of the one-eyed and one-armed, or one-legged or no no-legged of our veterans, as to endanger the safety of the West Point instruction *in toto*. And yet it is upon record, that the striplings from this Academy—scarcely yet off their graduation leave—have fleshed their swords with a will, and even perished gallantly in the "imminent deadly breach," despite the horrors of war, as seen by them face to face, and for themselves.

Are retired officers the scum or offscourings of the Service, that they are to be assailed with epithets or innuendoes, impeaching at every point their honor and integrity? By what authority, as well, will "Army" please to inform us, does he presume to state in advance, the favor or disfavor of the President, or the Hon. Secretary of War, touching a bill relative to retired officers, now pending for the judgment and action of Congress? Who is it that has thus far taken him into confidence, or set him forward as an exponent? And if he have not been thus taken into confidence, or set forward, is it "impertinent," or simply outrageous—to use no harsher term—for him to mount his high horse, and in this wise caper and cavort before the battle-scarred and service-worn veterans, who form the text of this, our present writing? T.

OFFICERS AND LEGISLATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In reading the report of the "Army and Navy Bills in Congress," in the JOURNAL of the second instant, I was reminded of the order issued March 15th, 1873, from the War Department, forbidding officers of the Army to influence legislation, or address chambers of Congress with a view to securing their influence in passing acts affecting the Army. A great many bills have been introduced, it is true, but if that order were not in force, there might have been one or two more! FORT MACON, N. C., Jan. 4, 1875.

REWARD FOR GALLANT CONDUCT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: At the meeting of the Trustees of the Humane Society, of Massachusetts, last evening, it was voted to present to Thomas Larkin, seaman of the United States steamer *Narragansett*, the framed certificate of the Society for his gallant acts, on the 24th November last, at Mare Island, California, when he twice jumped overboard to rescue his shipmates; on the last occasion, when the force of the tide made it dangerous—on the first occasion he was assisted by Spiro Juan and William Allwright, who will be honorably mentioned when the certificate of the Society is presented.

I am, etc.,

R. B. FORBES,
Chairman of Standing Committee,
Mass. Humane Society.

MILTON, MASS., Jan. 3, 1875.

ARMY AND NAVY BILLS IN CONGRESS.

The bill (H. R. 3963), "relating to the rank of officers in the Army," introduced into the House Dec. 14, by Mr. Darrall, is the same as (S. 1027), published herewith.

Senate bill 1027, introduced by Mr. West Dec. 15, "relating to the rank of officers in the Army," reads: That all officers of the Army of the United States who have heretofore been placed on the list of supernumeraries or classed as unassigned by operation of the act of March 3, 1869, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1870, and for other purposes," and were transferred into the cavalry, artillery, and infantry by general order numbered 59, series of 1869, War Department, shall be now taken and deemed to have been placed on the same footing as those officers transferred from the supernumeraries' list into the cavalry, artillery, and infantry by the 12th section of the act of July 15, 1870, entitled "An act making appropriation for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes;" and all officers transferred previous to the act of July 15, 1870, into cavalry, artillery, and infantry, shall be deemed and considered as having been entitled to the same rank in the regiment to which they have been transferred or assigned as those transferred under the provisions of section 12 of the act of July 15, 1870, and hold and

enjoy such rank and promotion, with all its pay and emoluments, from the date of their original entry into the Army in the regiment where they have been transferred or assigned.

In the Senate, on the 7th inst., the Committee of Pensions reported adversely on the bills granting a pension to Mrs. Jane Dulauey, and granting increase of pension to Mrs. Mary W. Shirk.

The House, on the 6th inst., passed bill (H. R. No. 3912), reducing the force in the Adjutant-General's Department of the Army. It provides that the Adjutant-General's Department shall hereafter consist of one adjutant-general with the rank, pay, and emoluments of a brigadier-general; two assistants with the rank, pay, and emoluments of colonels; four assistants with the rank, pay, and emoluments of lieutenant-colonels; and ten assistants with the rank, pay, and emoluments of majors, and repeals so much of the Army appropriation of March 3, 1869, as applies to the Adjutant-General's Department. The bill reduces the number of majors from thirteen to ten, and increases the lieutenant-colonels one—saving the Government \$10,500 per year.

It also passed bill (H. R. No. 4185), for the relief of Brevet Brigadier-General B. S. Roberts, which provides for the convening of a board to report whether he was, as of Dec. 15, 1870, entitled to be retired in accordance with the provisions of section 32, of an act to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States, approved July 28, 1866; and if he was so entitled for the correction of his record accordingly.

Mr. Donnan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back adversely the memorial of General Hazen on the subject of creating a soldiers' savings deposit; also bill (H. R. No. 2142), to relieve all persons engaged in the volunteer military service of the United States at the close of the war of the rebellion, from the disability of desertion, on account of absenting themselves afterwards from their respective regiments and companies without leave, and for the auditing and paying them all claims for back pay and bounty, as though no disability of desertion had ever been incurred by them. The committee reported that among the soldiers who so absented themselves, there are undoubtedly cases of hardship, which have received or will receive the attention of Congress, but to restore the entire list to an unblemished record, would be unjust to the many thousands of their faithful comrades who served without breach of military discipline until honorably mustered out of the Service. The bill was referred to the Committee on the Whole. Mr. Butler stated that its provisions would take about ten million dollars from the Treasury.

Bill (H. R. No. 678), to provide for post quartermaster sergeants was passed in the House. It authorizes and empowers the Secretary of War to select from the sergeants of the Line of the Army, who shall have faithfully served therein five years, three years of which in the grade of non-commissioned officer, as many post quartermaster sergeants as the Service may require, not exceeding one for each military post or place of deposit of quartermasters' supplies, whose duty it shall be to receive and preserve the quartermasters' supplies at the posts, under the direction of the proper officers of the Quartermaster's Department, and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of War, to be subject to the Rules and Articles of War, and to receive same pay and allowances as ordnance sergeants.

Mr. Hutton reported (H. R. No. 4189), for the relief of Lieutenant R. H. Chadbourn, late of Company B, Eighty-fourth regiment colored Infantry, which annuls the finding of sentence of court-martial in his case, and gives him an honorable discharge instead of dismissal, and it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

Mr. Phillips introduced bill (H. R. No. 4192), for the relief of S. K. Thompson, late second lieutenant Twenty-fifth U. S. Infantry, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House passed the fortification appropriation bill, which appropriates \$250,000. No amendments were made.

In the Senate, January 6, communications were presented from the Secretary of War transmitting a report of General Ord in relation to the sufferers from the grasshopper plague, and from General Schofield, respecting the repeal of the law which forbids promotion in the Staff of the Army, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Cragin introduced a bill (S. No. 1086), to regulate promotions in the Staff of the Marine Corps, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs; also (S. No. 1087), to fix and reduce the Pay Department of the Army, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hancock introduced (S. No. 1090), for the relief of A. W. Greely, Fifth Cavalry, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

In the House, on the 8th inst., Mr. Nesmith, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back, with recommendation for passage, (Senate bill No. 769), for the relief of Paymaster J. W. Nichols of the Army, and it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

(House bill No. 4214) was passed, providing that the legal compensation and allowance due to the officers of the Government engaged in the parties observing the Transit of Venus, shall be paid from the appropriations for the support of the branches of the public service to which such officers are attached. The passage of such a bill is necessary in consequence of a recent decision of the First Comptroller of the Treasury, that under paragraph 3678, Revised Statutes, which provides that "all sums appropriated for the various branches of expenditure in the public service shall be applied solely to the objects for which they are respectively made, and for no others," the officers engaged

on the Transit of Venus Expedition, belonging to the coast survey, cannot be paid from coast survey appropriations.

(H. R. bill No. 782), for the relief of the officers and crew of the *Wyoming* and *Taklang*, was discussed at much length, but no resolution reached.

The naval appropriation bill was taken up by the Senate on the 8th of January, amended and passed without discussion. The amendments require the concurrence of the House, and were as follows: "Provided that no allowance shall be made in the settlement of any account for travelling expenses unless the same be incurred on the order of the Secretary of the Navy, or the allowance be approved by him." Increasing the appropriation for the Nautical Almanac from \$18,000 to \$20,000; increasing the appropriation for continuance of work on new planets, discovered by American astronomers, from \$2,000 to \$3,000; increasing the appropriation for repairs of naval laboring hospitals, etc., from \$5,000 to \$20,000; reducing the appropriation for pensions for Navy, from \$1,200,000 to \$1,244,000. Striking out, in the appropriation (steam engineering) for repairs and preservation of boilers and machinery, etc., the following proviso: "That the work be done in the workshops of the Navy-yard when practicable." Under Naval Academy, making two professors (heads of departments), namely, one of drawing, and one of English studies, history, and law, at \$2,500 each; three professors, namely, one of mathematics (assistant), one of chemistry, and one of French at \$2,200 each, instead of one professor of drawing (head of department), \$2,500; four professors, namely, one of mathematics (assistant), one of chemistry, one of English studies, history, and law, and one of French at \$2,200 each. Also increasing appropriation for heating and lighting Academy and school ships, from \$10,000 to \$15,000, and the appropriations for contingent expenses [general maintenance], from \$36,600 to \$41,600. Under the head of Marine Corps, the appropriation for transportation of troops was made to embrace expenses of recruiting, repairs of barracks and rent of offices where there are no public buildings, was increased from \$6,000 to \$10,000; an appropriation of \$5,000 was inserted for the transportation of officers travelling without troops; the clause for forage was made to read, "For forage for public horses and horses belonging to field and staff officers, \$5,000;" the appropriation for hire of quarters was increased from \$10,000 to \$16,000, and the word offices was changed to officers, making the clause read, "For hire of quarters for officers where there are no public quarters, \$16,000;" an appropriation of \$20,000 was inserted for payment of discharged soldiers for clothing not drawn; and the amount for contingencies was increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

In the House, on the 11th inst., the following bills were introduced by Mr. Parker: (H. R. 4235), for the relief of John K. Sullivan, late a second lieutenant in the Army; Mr. Scudder of New York, (H. R. 4231), to restore Edward McDonald Reynolds to the Marine Corps; Mr. Archer, (H. R. 4239), to provide for the manufacture of submarine guns, the invention of Admiral Porter; Mr. Berry, (H. R. 4249), to abolish the office of Lieutenant-General of the Army; Mr. Myers, (H. R. 4299), fixing the relative rank of civil engineers in the Navy; Mr. Hawley of Connecticut, presented the petition of Wm. Maxwell Wood, Jr., for compensation for the use in the Navy of his boat detaching and attaching apparatus.

In the Senate, on the 12th inst., Mr. Cragin made an adverse report on the bill for the relief of the officers and crew of the U. S. steamer *Champion*. A resolution was passed authorizing Passed Assistant Engineer Thomas W. Fitch to accept of a wedding present sent to his wife, Mrs. Minnie Sherman Fitch, by the Khedive of Egypt. Mr. Hitchcock introduced a bill for the relief of Mrs. Rebecca L. Wright.

In the House, the naval appropriation bill was taken up, and the Senate amendments concurred in, thus passing the bill.

Mr. Hutton reported bill (H. R. 4308), for the protection of orphans, widows, and heirs of officers of the U. S. Army, which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union; also (H. R. 4309) to extend the observations of the Signal Service of the Army, which was similarly referred.

The *St. Louis Republican* publishes what purports to be an expression of views by General Sherman upon the existing condition of affairs in Louisiana. The *Republican* says: In substance the General said affairs in Louisiana were an ugly look. He hoped, however, that a solution of the difficulties would soon be reached. This state of affairs could not continue much longer. He thought that Congress would soon be compelled to take some action which would compose the difficulties, as far as they could at present be composed. General Emory, who commands the Department of the Gulf, is a good man, an excellent officer of the old school, but perhaps a little timid in interfering in the civil affairs of the State. He (General Sherman) had received orders and communications from Washington, touching the condition of things in Louisiana, which he had forwarded to General Sheridan. That commander had gone to New Orleans to observe the progress of the civil complications by order of the President, with discretionary authority to assume command of the troops if he should deem it necessary. General Sheridan, he said, is a kind-hearted, noble-minded man, accessible to any who may have a suit to urge. But he is a soldier, also, and does not hesitate to do his duty. If he thought it necessary, and believed it a matter of duty, the City of New Orleans would be no more regarded than an Indian village. He would not hesitate to level it. That is the kind of a man Sheridan is. But he is also prudent and discreet, and will do nothing to complicate matters or precipitate events. The military could not decide as to the rightfulness or wrongfulness of the claims of the contending factions;

they could only obey orders. It was the province of the judiciary to decide as to the legality of this or that government. The President was an executive officer; he could not constitutionally determine whether this or that party was entitled to exercise the powers of government in Louisiana. He thought the President, having once recognized the Kellogg Government, had made up his mind to sustain it until declared by Congress or the Supreme Court of the United States to be illegal. There is a great problem lying back of all these troubles. The making of laws taxing the people, by a party which pays little or no taxes, is a subject which needs to be handled with great delicacy. As to the question whether a fair election has been or can be held in Louisiana, is a matter for careful consideration. The present condition of society in Louisiana is anarchy. The General thought it was to be lamented that this whole matter had not been brought before the Supreme Court long ago. It would have been easy to get up a case. Any citizen might have questioned the legality of the Government, and declined to obey some State law in which this question was involved. The case could have proceeded before the Circuit Court, until a decision was reached, and then taken on appeal to the Supreme Court. All parties would have submitted to a decision from that tribunal, and thus the whole question would have been disposed of. The interest of party might swerve the judgment of Congressmen, but he regards the present Supreme Court above all such influences, and altogether one of the ablest judicial bodies this country has ever had. No decision of the Supreme Court of the United States has ever been questioned or resisted, and the General said, "I hope the time will never come when the people shall refuse to obey the judgment of that high tribunal."

LIEUTENANT COLONEL LONG of the Egyptian army, of whose exploit in Central Africa we gave an account in the *JOURNAL* of Dec. 26, has received his promotion to the rank of Colonel of the General Staff. The following is the order on the subject:

MINISTRY OF WAR, BUREAU OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF, CAIRO, November 16, 1874.

GENERAL ORDER No. 18.

Lieutenant-Colonel Long, of the General Staff, while on the expedition to Lake Albert, was attacked by 400 armed men, enemies of the Khedive. With but two soldiers he resisted the attack of the entire troop, and inflicted on it a loss of eighty-two men.

For this excellent feat of arms, and that he has acquitted himself so heroically, notwithstanding great difficulties in his mission to the Uganda country, his Highness, the Khedive, is pleased to name Lieutenant-Colonel Long to the grade of Colonel of the General Staff.

By order of his Highness, the Prince, BRONX, Chief of the General Staff.

Colonel Long, whose full name is Charles Chaillé Long, was born in July, 1812, at Princess Anne, Somerset County, Md., Littleton Long, Esq., his father, being now the oldest inhabitant of that town. He was educated at the Washington Academy. When the war between the North and South commenced, he joined the Union Army as a private in the First, Eastern Shore, Maryland, regiment, Colonel James Wallace commanding, his brother, Captain L. Long, being captain of his company. He soon attracted the attention of his superior officers, and was detailed to General Lew Wallace's headquarters. He participated in all the battles that his regiment was engaged in, and on the consolidation of the Eleventh Maryland with the First, he was promoted to the rank of captain, and served on General Schoepf's staff at Fort Delaware. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged, and went into the dry goods commission business in New York. He was appointed on the Khedive staff, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, in March, 1870. He was for a short time connected with the press, publishing the *Somerset Herald* in Princess Ann.

It has been estimated by an Indian contemporary, says the *London Broad Arrow*, that in the eighteen months including the latter half of the year 1868 and the year 1869, there were no fewer than 1,200 district and general courts-martial on soldiers held in India. In more than half these cases—in upwards of 700—the offence for which the prisoners were brought up was insubordination. No sentence even of penal servitude is to be found among the records of the 700 cases, and one man who on two occasions had struck his officer, was sentenced on each to only one year's imprisonment. The Commander-in-chief addressed himself seriously to the task of reforming this state of things. A custom, by which men sentenced to two years' imprisonment or more, were sent home to England was reasonably held to act as an incentive to crime, and was cancelled; courts-martial were urged to pass repressive sentences, and the result may be stated as follows: In the year 1870 there were 160 cases of insubordination. In 1871 the number sank to 66; in 1872, to 54; in 1873, to 47; and in 1874 the returns, though still incomplete, promise to exhibit a continued decline in the prevalence of the offence.

In his report to his government on the last English Autumn Manœuvres, the German military envoy present placed the artillery first, the infantry second, and the cavalry third in respect to efficiency, each to each, in the British army. He placed the artillery second to the German, equal to the Russian, superior to the French, and far before the Austrian. The ground on which he considered they were inferior to the Prussian was that as to *materiel* they had muzzle-loading guns, and seemed to work too much "on their own" without reference to supports, to concentration of fire and general susceptibility to the whole idea of attack or defense.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

JANUARY DRILLS.

NOTE.—The present list will be corrected from time to time as we receive notifications, and we request that all regiments which do not appear therein will send us lists of their regular nights as soon as possible that none may be omitted. Our representatives will be present at all as far as possible.

Monday, 18th, Seventy-first, arsenal; Twelfth, armory; Thirteenth, Brooklyn arsenal; Washington Grays, armory; Tuesday, 19th, Fifth, arsenal; Wednesday, 20th, Seventy-ninth, arsenal; Klein Troop, armory; Thursday, 21st, Eighth, arsenal; Ninety-sixth, armory; Separate Troop, Eleventh brigade, armory; Friday, 22d, Seventh, arsenal; Twelfth, armory; Monday, 25th, Sixty-ninth, arsenal; Fifth, armory; Twenty-second, armory; Tuesday, 26th, Fifty-fifth, arsenal; Forty-seventh, armory; Fifth, armory; Wednesday, 27th, Twelfth, arsenal; Forty-seventh, armory; Klein Troop; Fifth (instruction), armory; Thursday, 28th, Eighth, arsenal; Ninety-sixth, armory; Fifth, armory; (Separate Troop, Eleventh brigade, armory; Friday, 29th, Seventh, arsenal (Co. drills).

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.—The right wing of this regiment—Companies A, C, E, G, and K—held its drill at the arsenal on the evening of Friday, 8th inst. This drill was in some respects a great improvement on that of the left wing on the 22d ult. The line was formed without parade at 5:30 o'clock, the first company with bayonets fixed, and the battalion was turned over in this manner to the colonel, who directed the adjutant to have the first company undress bayonets, which was done, and the battalion presented a second time. The five companies were equalized into four, each having a front of twelve files, and their appearance was very good. The first movement was a march in column of fours, which was pretty fairly done, Colonel Vose changing arms often during the march. "Fours right about" also was fairly done. Being in column of fours, the colonel placed two markers and gave the command, "right front into line," at which the captain of the left company, instead of forming in line on the markers, marched past them to the extremity of the room; the second and third companies also going past the markers and forming on his right. The fourth captain, seeing the error, caused his company to mark time until the three companies had countermarched around the left of the markers and formed properly, the front thus made being L shaped. The movement was repeated several times, both by right and left front, and after this first flasco proceeded well, the only remarkable fault being that some of the captains did not bring their companies to a support. "Centre forward, fours left and right," was executed two or three times quite creditably; and "right and left front into line" two or three times in the same style. "Companies right wheel" was poorly done, the company fronts being bent and crooked. "Right front into line, companies right half wheel" was fairly done, except for the first company forming at right angles, making again an L. "Companies right wheel" was a second time indifferently done. "Left front into line, companies half left wheel" was twice repeated, and was in the main well executed. In forming close column of divisions from column of fours to the right, a mistake occurred by which the first division got divided into companies, marching to the front and rear of another division, thereby sandwiching the said division between them. This was rectified by the company in rear going in front and to the right of the other division. Afterwards, being in column of companies, at the order, "left into line wheel," the companies did not complete the wheel simultaneously, and some (though not much) distance was lost. The wheeling into line and column of companies was executed several times, better than before, but not perfect. "Division right wheel" and "left into line wheel" (by division) was done twice, and though not perfectly accurate, compared favorably with those movements by companies. The colonel, at the conclusion of the manoeuvres, commanded "rear open order," but the ranks and file closers were not dressed, there being no officers to perform that duty. In fact, there is quite a scarcity of officers in the Seventy-first, there being only seven line officers in this drill. The whole concluded with a short drill in the manual, which was quite good.

The above noticed wing drill of the Seventy-first was a considerable improvement on that spoken of in our late issue. The attendance was much larger, which is a gain on more points than one. We hope sincerely that the other wing may exhibit some spirit of rivalry and come up in even greater force. Time was when the Seventy-first was one of the strongest regiments in New York city, and there is no reason why it should not be so again. The officers have to remember, however, that under our present Military Code and under all our militia laws in the past, the element of personal influence and popularity is essential to make a success of either company or regiment. In the Regular Army the men are enlisted and stay, or if they desert their places are supplied by recruits sent in from the general rendezvous. In militia, every regiment stands on its own merits. To make it popular, one thing is absolutely essential, that the board of officers should work in complete harmony, and as a unit. A single lazy or discontented officer can do more harm to a regiment than three vigorous public spirited men can undo. In the Seventy-first, while everything seems to work without much external clashing, there are evidences of want of interest and of apathy in some quarters that have hitherto told with most disastrous effects on the regiment. As far as drill goes, there is plenty of intelligence in the rank and file, officers are all competent enough if they will only take the necessary trouble, but we are sorry to say that they do not support their commanding officer with the whole-souled vigor shown in some other regiments, notably the Seventh and Twenty-second. It is this enthusiastic support of a colonel through thick and thin, right and wrong (within certain limits), that makes successful regiments. We never saw it in a stronger light than in one or two Connecticut regiments that we might mention, where the whole body of officers seemed inspired by a single will. If a company, field, or staff officer finds that, owing to some incompatibility of disposition or notions of duty, he cannot work with his colonel in entire harmony, he has two courses open, either to give up his individuality for his regiment's good, or to resign. The worst thing he can do is to stay in a regiment he does not heartily believe in, to embarrass its action. Were all the officers of the Seventy-first to follow this rule, which rests on tact and gentlemanly feeling, the regiment might soon resume its pristine glory.

THE COMPANY CHAMPIONSHIP.—We have received from Company E, First California regiment, the following letter on the Company Championship of the United States to which we alluded in our issue of December 19. We print it with great pleasure, as likely to stimulate the interest on the subject of company rifle championship, which we regard as of great importance to the National Guard at large:

SAN FRANCISCO, January 2, 1875.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: We, members of Company E, First California regiment, were somewhat surprised at the statements and comments in your issue of December 19 upon our proposed

match with Company D, Twelfth N. Y. Permit us to correct a mistake relative to our rifles, which are 50 cal. instead of 45, as stated. As to the challenge of Company D, published in June last, you will notice that its acceptance was limited to companies of the First division, N. G. S. N. Y., was for only one range (200 yards), and must have been accepted before August 1, at which time we had only got our targets for the 500 yard range into passable shape, and had not practised more than two or three times, thus leaving us out of the question as competitors, even if we had been eligible under the first clause. As to your remarks upon the difference of climate, conditions of the atmosphere, etc., upon two ranges so far apart, we fully appreciate that, and any one who knows San Francisco will tell you that we have a good prospect of having the worst of it. When, however, you say that we ought to raise money to send a team to Creedmoor and introduce the word "championship," at the same time suggesting a general affair to which other companies should be admitted, we think that you are giving our modest little challenge too great an importance. Lacking acquaintance, we had to make it general, but have only thought of it as a matter of pastime, to create more interest in shooting, especially on this coast, and to inconvenience the contestants as little as possible. Championship honors will do to talk about after more people have accustomed themselves to this stage of shooting. Certainly we are not egotistical enough to hope for or claim them just yet. Please give this a place and set us right. Yours respectfully,

Geo. H. Strong, for Company E.

ED.—Our friends of the Pacific coast are modest, and evidently did not anticipate the stir that would be made by their challenge. We wish to be distinctly understood as not reproaching that challenge in any manner. In a new sport like that of rifle shooting, depending entirely on individual exertions, anything that increases the general interest is altogether desirable. We hope sincerely that our hints of the 19th ult. will be taken, if not by Company E, First California, and Company D, Twelfth New York, at least by other companies of the National Guard elsewhere, and that a really national contest may arise from this modest beginning. A championship contest is by no means a mere exhibition of vanity. It is the only way to stimulate public curiosity and interest in any sport or pursuit of any kind dependent on hard work and individual interest. The National Rifle Association met with but little recognition beyond a limited circle, till the International Match on its grounds at Creedmoor fired the whole country into a temporary fever of enthusiasm for rifle practice. In a contest for the Company Championship of the United States at Creedmoor the interest of the National Guardsmen all over the Union would be stimulated to the highest point, and the benefit resulting from the practice would be immense. Good rifle shooting depends on exactly one thing, after the theory is mastered, and that thing is practice. The arduous practice required of a good rifle shot can only be maintained by the greatest interest and enthusiasm, and there is nothing like sectional rivalry to excite that interest. We therefore repeat our hope that this company championship match will not be shot in any such manner as that so far proposed, by teams at 3,000 miles apart, but in a fair field common to all, with a representation from at least every State in the Union. That will be a contest worth seeing, and worthy of the heartiest support from all the National Guard.

ARMY RIFLE PRACTICE.—The officers of the Regular Army continue to appreciate the good effect on their men of the public comparison of target records first instituted by Captain McGowan, of the Twelfth Infantry, in our columns. We publish to-day with great pleasure the following memoranda of target practice by Company K, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, at Frankfort, Ky., December 30, 1874, furnished by Lieutenant Ewing, supervising officer, viz.: Forty men; five consecutive shots each; position, standing; range, 100 yards; wind, gentle; weather, cloudy; thermometer, eight degrees below freezing point; Creedmoor target—6 by 4 feet; centre, 2 feet square; bull's-eye, 8 inches square. Score: 11 bull's-eyes, 52 centres, 103 outers, and 34 misses; total, 406 points; average, 2.03—a little more than fifty per cent. of highest possible score. This score is very good indeed for the season, being pretty close to that of Company D, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, and to that of Klein's Troop, First division N. G. S. N. Y.

THE TWENTY-SECOND'S BALL.—The ball of the "Shooting Regiment" was the great event of Monday night. The Sixty-ninth ought to have been drilling at the arsenal, and instead of that, they shut off the gas, and started for the ball—at least we presume so—as nothing short of a wedding, or a wake, or a ball, could turn Colonel Cavanagh from the stern path of duty. The Academy was full, and yet invitations were very hard to procure. The decorations were handsome and appropriate, and Gilmore's band furnished the music. The military guests of high rank had boxes. Everybody who was anybody was there, and every one was happy. Could more be said? In fine, the ball was a success, and any one who did enjoy it, was probably a wall flower, who could not dance. Even the older portion of the company who were past dancing did not look very unhappy, if they only knew any one there, as there were plenty of people to talk to. Among the prominent officers present were Colonels Pearsall, Stokes, Bartlett, and Strong, of Governor Tilden's staff; General Dunn, Colonels Gildersleeve and Jussen, Lieutenant-Colonel Mitchell, Majors Parker, Belknap, Captain Post, Major Wilson; Colonel Ward, of the Twelfth; Lieutenant-Colonel Bingham, of the Second Regiment N. G. S. N. Y.; Captains Crane and Gilmore, Adjutant Van Iderstine, Lieutenants Jackson and Franklin, of the Fifth Infantry N. G. S. N. Y.; Col. Vose and Quartermaster Guibert, of the Seventy-first; Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, of the Veteran Corps, Twenty-second; Major Hess, of the Third Artillery, U. S. A.; Major McLean, of the Old Guard; Colonel Porter, Lieutenant-Colonel Camp, Major McGrath, Surgeon Roberts, Adjutant Waydell, Captains Styles, Topping, Smith, Horsfall, Briggs, Lieutenants Knapp, Roux, Wilmerding, and Miller, of the Twenty-second Infantry; Among the civic guests were Messrs. M. Dupignac, John H. Turner, Theodore Moss, and Gilson Whitson. The Reception Committee was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel John T. Camp; House Committee, Major W. J. McGrath; Floor Committee, Captain R. Kelly Styles; Press Committee, Lieutenant W. J. Carmichael; Quartermaster-Sergeant Paterson; Color-Sergeant Coles; Sergeants W. J. Murphy, and James Barry.

The following was the order of dancing: Twenty-second Infantry Grand March. 1. Lancers; promenade. 2. Galop; promenade. 3. Redowa; promenade. 4. Quadrille; promenade. 5. Redowa; promenade. 6. Galop; promenade. 7. Lancers; promenade. 8. Redowa; promenade. 9. Galop; promenade. 10. Lancers; promenade. 11. Redowa; promenade. 12. Quadrille; promenade. 13. Redowa; promenade. 14. Galop; promenade. 15. Lancers; promenade. 16. Redowa; promenade. 17. Galop; promenade. 18. Lancers; promenade. 19. Redowa; promenade. 20. Galop; promenade. Somewhere towards daylight the ball broke up, and the Academy was left to darkness and desolation, while the majority of the revellers did not get up till noon of Tuesday.

TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.—The non-commissioned officers of this regiment assembled at the armory, in fatigue uniform, for theoretical instruction and drill, on Friday, January 15 and 22, at 7:45 o'clock P. M. The right and left wing of the regiment will assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, for battalion drill, at 8 o'clock P. M., as follows: Companies A, B, G, F, and D, Monday, January 25; Companies H, K, I, E, and C, Friday, January 29. The following changes in command are announced: Captain John H. Horsfall transferred from Company I to the command of Company F; First Lieutenant Wilmot M. Dunning to be captain Company E, vice Congdon, resigned; Second Lieutenant Thomas L. Miller to be first lieutenant Company E, vice Dunning, promoted; First Lieutenant John C. Wilmerding resigned December 17, 1874.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—At the regular monthly meeting of Company E, Twelfth regiment N. G. S. N. Y., held at their armory January 8,—that being the first meeting this year.—The following members were elected as civil officers for the ensuing year: Secretary, Sergeant Charles F. Moulton; Treasurer, George E. W. Stivers; Company Court-martial—First Lieutenant C. E. Perring, Corporal Wm. McCuen, Privates Benjamin Plumb, Thos. F. Lynch, and Edward D. McGreal; Finance Committee—Corporal Philip Doerle, Privates Patrick Starr, and James F. Perring; Armory Committee—Sergeant Thos. G. Seely, Corporals James T. McCuen and Oliver McMillan; Committee on Membership—Privates J. H. Bishop, J. Vreeland, and F. H. Smith.

THE NEW TARGETS.—We have received the following letter from the officers of the Westchester County organization, mentioned in our last issue:

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: We beg leave to correct through your columns the erroneous impressions prevalent in the National Rifle Association as to our own body, which appear in your article on the "New Targets, etc.," in the last number of the JOURNAL. I. Our name "American" was adopted because, from the location of our range on roads leading to other States, we expect to be favored with a portion of the practice of those States, and hope in time to attain a rank higher than that of a mere county or village club. Our field will not interfere with that of the National Rifle Association, and is not so intended. II. As the N. R. A. copy their rules from the Wimbledon rules of three years ago, so do we from those of the Wimbledon of to-day. Experience has dictated a change there, and we are satisfied to accept the results of that experience, believing it only a question of a few months, perhaps weeks, before the N. R. A. adopts the new Wimbledon system itself. A young Association, we do not wish to have to make targets twice over and incur needless expense. The system we have adopted has been fully explained in your own columns, and is no novelty. It is merely a modification of the old system, easily understood, and a great improvement, as was confessed by every one who attended our Christmas match. The only noticeable change is in the third class targets, and the addition of the "inner" circle renders ties almost impossible. Hoping that our explanation will prevent further attacks. We remain, your obedient servants, JOHN T. UNDERHILL, President; FREDERICK WHITTAKER, Vice President; GEORGE O. STARR, Secretary, American Rifle Association of Westchester County.

THE CODE.—In another two weeks the Military Association will meet in Albany, and the probabilities are that this year they will redeem their past record, by recommending some vigorous action with regard to the Code. We are sincerely glad to be authorized to announce that the staff of Governor Tilden, headed by Adjutant-General Townsend, are a unit on the question of the necessity of Code reform. That the Military Association, under its present able leader, will help them, is certain. The only question is, how much reform can we get? The Adjutant-General and the association will be alike hampered by the penny-wise pound-foolish meanness of the country members, who come down cocked and primed to kill the thousand dollar exemption if they can. The only reforms certain to be urged are those of a shorter term of enlistment, re-enlistments for short terms, a definition of what constitutes an enlistment, a practical method of cancelling enlistments in case of the party wishing to buy a discharge, a proper method of effecting transfers, fixing the ownership of uniforms, and making the time of annual inspection discretionary. These are all good reforms. It remains to be seen whether we can get more for the National Guard, and officers who have hitherto been content to grumble have it now in their power to suggest practical remedies, if they will stay up the hands of the Adjutant-General and the Military Association. We hope to return to this subject.

The members of the House on whom the virtual decision of the amendments will rest are the members of the Military Committee, who are Messrs. Vossburgh, of Albany; Cook, of Otsego; Schenck, of Montgomery; Beach, of New York; Beardsley, of Cayuga; Ives, of Oneida; Husted, of Westchester; McAfee, of New York; and Taylor, of Rensselaer. Messrs. Vossburgh and Husted are also on the Ways and Means Committee.

THE VACANT DIVISION.—There is naturally quite a flutter in Brooklyn about the next major-general of the Second division. The name of General Slocum comes down among the small fry like a whale among minnows, defying opposition. But then comes the question, will Slocum, a corps commander in war times, care to be bothered with the command of a division of militia? If he is kind and public spirited enough to undertake the cares of a thankless position, there is no question that he is probably the best man to be found in Brooklyn for the post. Besides war experience, General Slocum, in a political career of distinction, has learned the arts of personal influence which are essential to control militiamen, and if he will take the trouble, can even perform the difficult task of replacing General Woodward, lately the most successful division commander in New York. It is, however, a problem whether, to General Slocum, the game would be worth the candle, and failing him, there is one obviously proper choice that can be made in the Second division. We refer of course to the promotion of the senior brigadier, General Meserole, a capable and excellent officer, who has commanded and is now commanding the division by right of seniority. Against this choice not a word can be said, and though possibly not so brilliant as that implied in the selection of the celebrated Slocum, the future of the division would be in safe hands. One thing we earnestly trust, for the honor of the National Guard, that no officer in the division will give his vote for a political reason to an unfit candidate. Politics have been the bane of the National Guard in the past. Let the Second division be the first to purge the record.

CITY COURTS-MARTIAL.—Our National Guard officers, who are proverbially sharp on legal points, have lately found a grave flaw in the Code amendment, changing the personal of regimental or brigade courts. This amendment provides that the Presidents of regimental and brigade courts-martial must be judge-advocates, or brigade staff officers not less than captains in rank.

By a reference to the JOURNAL of August 29, 1874, the language of the act will be found to be as follows, the numbering of the sections referring to the present Code, the change itself being in chapter 388, pp. 457-8, laws of 1874: "Section 196. For the trial of non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, the commandant of each brigade may at any time appoint a regimental or battalion court-martial for any regiment or battalion in his brigade, which court shall consist of the brigade judge-advocate, except as provided in section 197 of this act. Section 197 of said act is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following words: 'Which vacancy shall be filled by, or

new court consist of, an officer of the brigade staff, whose rank is not below that of a captain." The law which exists in section 198, which reads as follows: "The officer constituting such court shall, before he enters on his duties as such, take the following oath"—here follows the oath—"and such oath shall be taken by him before a justice of the peace of the county in which he resides, or a field officer of his regiment or battalion; and it shall be the duty of such justice of the peace or field officer to administer the oath without fee or reward." In the country there is no difficulty on this point. Justices are plenty there. In New York and Brooklyn there are no justices of the peace, and the clause about field officers has become inoperative, because a brigade staff officer has no regiment or battalion. This is one instance of the loose manner in which Military Code legislation has been hurried through in our Assembly and Senate. A return to U. S. practice, which is already settled by experience, is the shortest way out of this difficulty, which really leaves the First and Second divisions without power to try enlisted men, for the want of some one to swear in the court. It is the innumerable technicalities of law that have hitherto most hampered the National Guard, and a return to U. S. regulations, wherever possible, rids us of all these vexatious quibbles which answer no good purpose, but obstruct justice.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—The third annual meeting of the Association was held at the Astor House on Tuesday, 12th inst., the meeting being called to order at 4.15 p. m. The parlor, which was very large, was completely filled with life members, and a great many annual members had also come, many under the impression that they could vote at the election for directors. Legislative amendments to the by-laws barred them out, however, as only life members can now vote on directors, the privileges of annual members being limited to the use of the range, etc. Colonel Church, the President, opened with a short address, congratulating the Association on the great success of last year, and recapitulating the previous years' experience—the first spent in preliminary purchase and arrangement of Creedmoor, the second in matches and improving practice, the third culminating in the International victory, and the best scores ever made in the world at long range, Creedmoor being now a name of world-wide reputation, and the parent of clubs all over the United States, extending also to South America. The roll of life members was then called, with the following gentlemen present: General J. B. Woodward, General Franz Sigel, General Kilbourne Knox, Colonel John Ward, General M. T. McMahon, George Crouch, A. Alvord, J. L. Price, Captain B. E. Valentine, Captain John Keim, Captain Karl Klein, Captain L. G. T. Bruer, Colonel Josiah Porter, Lieutenant-Colonel John S. Camp, Colonel George D. Scott, General Thomas S. Dakin, A. V. Davis, Captain Henry Fulton, Patrick Rooney, Captain L. C. Bruce, Major R. L. Belknap, Colonel B. Burton, A. V. Canfield, Jr., W. A. French, E. A. Fisher, F. D. Fairbanks, E. Haines, Jr., J. S. Holland, Joseph Holland, Thomas Lloyd, T. M. Moley, S. H. Mead, E. H. Madison, H. H. Meday, J. L. Price, C. E. Prescott, C. T. Robbins, J. P. M. Richards, W. W. Skiddy, E. H. Sanford, W. H. Murphy, J. R. Andrews, General J. H. Bartlett, Colonel Francis De Greys, Captain B. Kelly Stiles, Major C. S. Hunter, Lieutenant-Colonel D. L. Milne, J. McKenny, Gen. McCook, A. Orlig, T. Richardson, Major L. B. Roder, W. W. Reynolds, A. Rich, Frederick Tompkins, Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Van Wyck, and Colonel Emmons Clark.

The balloting for directors was then taken up, nominations being open, and while the tellers were counting the votes the Treasurer and Secretary their reports. The former showed the annual receipts to have been \$19,647.25; expenditures, \$18,510.60, leaving a balance of \$1,137.65 remaining in the treasury. The cash assets of the Association were \$11,115; liabilities, \$7,784.75, leaving a balance of \$3,330.25 in its favor. This report was adopted, with great evidence of satisfaction at the administration of General McMahon. Colonel Gildersleeve then followed with a very comprehensive report, in which the poetry of rifle practice, as contrasted with the hard prose of finance, was strikingly illustrated. At 5.30 p. m., when the colonel produced a pile of M. S. about twenty inches high, for the conclusion of his report, there was some laughing and much terror manifested. A member with great presence of mind, moved the suspension of the reading, for even Shakespeare palls on a man anxious for dinner at 6 p. m. The result of the ballot was announced as follows: Five directors of three years term, General McMahon, Colonel Church, Hon. D. W. Judd, Captain Fulton, and E. H. Sanford. General McMahon, for one year, General Molinoux. All but Fulton and Sanford were re-elected. Mr. Peck then read the report of Prize Committee, and Colonel Wingate that of Range Committee, the latter recommending that no change be made in the targets or scoring at Creedmoor. The President then announced as a committee to co-operate with the Amateur Club on the International Return Match at Dublin, the names of Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Generals Woodward, McMahon, and Molinoux. At 5.45 the meeting adjourned.

WASHINGTON GRAYS.—The Washington Grays drill every Monday evening, on foot, in their nice little armory, corner Broadway and Forty-fifth street. Like the Eighth, they have an exceedingly handsome place, fitted up in good taste. We chanced to be in there on Monday evening last, and were pleased to find sixteen files present, drilling with carbines. The first sergeant was the assistant instructor, while Captain Baker stood by his side to supervise. The manual was being taught, and we are sorry to say, incorrectly taught. Especially was this the case in "Order arms," when the sergeant directed the men to make the first motion at the word "order," the second at the word "arms." In these matters, there is nothing like following the tactics. The men seemed to be remarkably patient, intelligent, and docile; the officers anxious to excel, and the drills take place weekly. This company has been drilling weekly now since October, we believe, and ought by this time to know the manual of arms. Instead of this, all seemed to be utterly green and inexperienced. Their time it seems had been wasted on marching drill without arms. Here is where our city cavalry troops make their greatest mistake. A cavalry soldier demands individual instruction in riding and the use of arms to make him something more than a defenseless puppet. The manual of sabre and carbine, and the sabre exercise, ought to be taught studiously to these men. Apart from the question of utility, as a mere parade business, the sabre and carbine drill is not the most showy. Captain Baker and the sergeant do not seem to understand either perfectly, and need to study them up. There is no sort of difficulty in making the Washington Grey Troop the best in the city, but it must be by individual instruction, and the instructors must be sure of their business. All it needs is hard study from Captain Baker, who must insist on his lieutenants working also, and drilling squads. It does not look well in a drill-room to see commissioned officers looking on at a sergeant drilling. If they cannot drill themselves, they ought to learn. A few nights will work wonders, if they are satisfied to do one thing at a time.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The following named officers have been commissioned in the National Guard, State of New York, during the month of December, 1874:

First Brigade—Capt. H. Fulton, inspector of rifle practice.
Fifth Brigade—Capt. B. E. Valentine, inspector of rifle practice.
Ninth Brigade—Capt. C. H. Warren, A. D. C.; First Lieut. E. McCannan, A. D. C.; Capt. H. L. Washburn, Jr., insp. rifle practice; Capt. E. Savage, ord. officer; Capt. J. D. Brooks, Q. M.; Capt. J. Fisher, C. S.
Twenty-first Brigade—Capt. A. J. Oatley, C. S.
Twenty-third Brigade—C. D. MacDougall, brig.-gen.
Separate Troop Cavalry, Eleventh Brigade—A. Behlen, first lieut.; A. Schmitt, sec. lieut.; J. A. Lauby, sec. lieut.
Separate Troop Cavalry, Twenty-fourth Brigade—C. S. Newell, first lieut.; H. Silver, second lieut.
First Battalion—Wm. E. Horton, second lieut.
Fifth Infantry—H. Gimpel, capt.; A. C. Turner, sec. lieut.
Sixth Infantry—E. A. Peterson, captain.
Eighth Infantry—Wm. J. Douglass, sec. lieut.
Ninth Infantry—H. F. Kennedy, sec. lieut.; I. E. Hoagland, capt.; J. A. Bluxome, first lieut.
Tenth Infantry—S. Weaver, capt.
Eleventh Infantry—J. Munzer, capt.; F. C. Beyer, first lieut.
Thirteenth Infantry—E. H. Coffin, sec. lieut.; E. H. Narwood, second lieut.
Fifteenth Battalion—B. Degenkolb, capt.; H. Mohr, first lieut.
Sixteenth Battalion—Capt. G. A. Brandreth, A. C.; First Lieut. W. A. Downs, adj.; First Lieut. A. D. Dunbar, Q. M.
Twenty-first Infantry—G. Sharp, second lieut.; P. Richard, capt.; H. L. Zachman, first lieut.; A. Asher, second lieut.
Twenty-second Infantry—W. B. Drumm, capt.; T. L. Miller, first lieut.; W. Anderson, first lieut.; J. S. Bogert, sec. lieut.
Twenty-seventh Infantry—F. J. Starr, first lieut.
Forty-fourth Battalion—J. F. Pettit, capt.
Forty-seventh Infantry—A. Guthrie, first lieut.; P. Hoffman, second lieut.; R. P. Morie, second lieut.
Fifty-first Infantry—J. Babb, second lieut.; Martin Salmon, sec. lieut.; W. A. Butler, second lieut.
Fifty-fourth Infantry—J. E. Brash, capt.; R. Van Graafeland, first lieut.; B. E. Ridley, capt.
Ninety-sixth Infantry—Capt. C. L. Volkhausen, A. C.; P. Hemmer, lieut.-col.; F. Kloeppel, major; A. W. Meylick, capt.; F. R. Lawrence, chaplain; A. Beyer second lieut.; W. Kruger, second lieut.

The following resignations in the National Guard, State of New York, have been accepted during the same period:

Second Division—J. B. Woodward, major-general.
First Brigade—Roland M. Hall, major and inspector.
Seventh Brigade—C. O. Le Count, capt. and com. of sub.
Eighth Brigade—G. Beach, brigadier-general.
Battalion of Artillery—Warner Westcott, colonel.
Battery K, First Division—Phil. E. Hanes, sec. lieut.
Washington Grey Troop Cavalry—A. L. Batterson, sec. lieut.
First Battalion—Jas. H. Spencer, capt.
Twenty-eighth Battalion—Reinhardt F. Lenz, second lieut.
Forty-fourth Battalion—P. M. Brown, capt.; M. F. Tupper, Jr., first lieut.; C. A. Bogardus, first lieut.
Fiftieth Battalion—Raymer V. Egbert, first lieut.
Eighth Infantry—H. D. Ledard, first lieut.; L. W. Powers, first lieut.; G. J. Kraus, second lieut.; J. Cassidy, sec. lieut.
Tenth Infantry—M. A. Hook, first lieut.; L. G. Hun, first lieut. and adjutant.
Eleventh Infantry, Henry Bala, captain.
Twelfth Infantry—J. E. Walker, first lieut.; H. R. F. Keochling, first lieut.
Twenty-second Infantry—John C. Wilmerding, first lieut.
Twenty-third Infantry—D. W. Van Ingen, captain.
Twenty-sixth Infantry—J. J. Burke, second lieut.
Fifty-fourth Battalion—Warner Westcott, colonel.
Sixty-ninth Infantry—T. J. Flannery, capt.; M. Keegan, first lieutenant and adjutant.
Seventy-ninth Infantry—G. Rogers, captain.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

—MAJOR AERY, of the First Battalion Cavalry, is now Captain of the New York Schutz Corps.

—The Eighth and Fifth Infantry drills are unavoidably laid over owing to the crowded state of our columns this week.

—On Wednesday evening, 13th inst., the Klein Troop had a grand ball at Tentonia Hall, and danced till daylight, with great success.

—Mr. Willis Van Winkle has written a new song on the Seventh.

—THE DRUM-MAJOR'S Association have elected for the year 1875: President, N. T. Jenks; Vice-President, C. Fisch; Treasurer, G. W. Brown; Secretary, E. McIntyre.

—FRIDAY, 8th inst., the Thirteenth had their theoretical instruction of officers and non-commissioned officers under Colonel Jourdan.

—COMPANY F, Seventh, have given ex-Lieutenant Goodwin a set of resolutions, expressing regret at his retirement after twelve years' service.

—CAPTAIN JOHN HUBNER drilled Battery K at the arsenal on Thursday evening 7th inst. The battery drills again on Thursday, 14th.

—COMPANY A, First Battalion, has lost Captain Spencer by resignation. Company H, same command, has elected Lieutenant Wm. E. Horton.

—COLONEL GILDERSLEEVE is hesitating about taking the Ninth, when we all know that he is just about the only man in New York that can run that machine with any success.

—THE WAR VETERANS of the Fourteenth have elected Colonel Fowler president for the year; Vice-Presidents, William Shaw, Charles Schurig, James West; Secretaries, Z. C. Waterbury, John Vile, James Woodhead. The association numbers about eighty members, and flourishes like a green bay tree.

—THE SEPARATE TROOP Cavalry, Eleventh brigade, had a short drill last Thursday evening, Captain Kreucher in command. This was the first drill of the season, consequently not much can be expected. They intend to parade on Washington's birthday in their new uniform.

—THE HOWITZER Battery, Eleventh brigade, has received a portion of its new horse equipments, and expects the rest in a few days. Horse artillery pure and simple is the watchword in this battery, and the laxity of a man riding on the caisson will be sternly discontinued.

—GENERAL WOODWARD continues to receive very handsome compliments, as he deserves, from the Second division. General Meserole invited him to a little party, and his late staff then and there caught him and presented him with a handsome bronze clock and side pieces, to remind him of them.

—THE FIELD OFFICERS of the Eighth brigade have done well in their second trial for a brigadier. On Thursday last, 7th inst., as we were going to press, they followed our wish as well as if they had known it, by electing Colonel Parker, of General Husted's staff, their new brigadier. General Parker is an old officer of war experience, and has the character to make a live brigadier.

—THE OLD GUARD continues to flourish, with Major McLean at the top of the roster for 1875. The senior captain for the year is Louis D. Buckley; junior captain, James T. Hatfield. The lieutenants are S. A. Fuller, James Davis, Jr., G. H. Chattendon, and C. G. Price. Brigadiers and colonels continue as before to compose the rank and file, and champagne promises to flow freely during the year.

—THE THIRTEENTH annual ball of Battery B, Second division, Major John Timmer was the event on Monday evening at the Miller Hall, Williamsburgh. The hall was tastefully decorated. Mayor's Thirty-second regiment band performed excellent music, and the warriors and their ladies made good use of it. General Dakin and staff, Colonel Burger, Lieutenant-Colonel Obernier, Captain Schlig, and many officers of the Second division were present.

—ON Tuesday evening Company D, Thirty-second regiment, elected the following civil officers for the ensuing year: Anton Roesch, president; Louis Osman, vice-president; John Rauech, recording secretary; Louis Beecher, financial secretary; Lieutenant George Dietrich, treasurer; and also elected Jacob Hofer

and John Rauech sergeants, and William Hoffman, Louis Beecher, and Louis Froelich, corporals.

—THE annual ball of the Thirty-second regiment drum corps took place at the Military Hall on Tuesday evening. Shortly after 9 o'clock Drum-Major Patterson lead the march through the beautifully decorated hall, and the regimental band did its level best in giving satisfaction. Such dancing, beautiful girls, drinking Rhine wine, music, gay uniformed officers, and supper were never before seen. Among the officers present we noticed Captain Kreucher, Lieutenant Behlen, Major Karcher, Lieutenant Miller, Captains Kissel and Schmitt, Lieutenant Dietrich, and others. The drum corps of the Fifth and Ninety-sixth regiments were present in full force, and also a delegation from the Fourteenth and Forty-seventh regiments.

—A New York gentleman who has recently located in Yokohama, Japan, writes home that he finds there a Rifle Club, consisting mostly of the Royal Marines on that station, but at the same time having many citizen members. "They are all," he adds, "crazy to see a specimen of the Remington rifle that won the match at Creedmoor against the Irish team. I attended the fall meeting of the club, and saw some fair shooting, but with one of those guns do not think I should be afraid to enter against them at the spring meeting which will take place in April."

—ON Monday evening, 11th inst., Keim's Battery gave a ball at Germania Hall, which was the greatest success ever known in that place. Shortly after midnight a party arrived from the Twenty-second regiment ball, consisting of Colonel Ward, of the Twelfth; Colonels Gildersleeve, Jussen and Mitchell, and Majors Parker and Belknap, and Captain Post, of General Shaler's staff; Major Wilson, of General Ward's staff, and Colonel Church. They were received in the most hearty and hospitable manner by Captain Keim and his officers, and left at 3:30 o'clock thoroughly convinced that, whatever the attractions they had left behind them at the Academy they were more than compensated for by the enjoyment they had found among the warm-hearted Germans of Keim's Battery.

—THE Eighth Infantry gave one of the social reunions, for which it is so famous, on Saturday evening, at the regimental armory in Twenty-third street. The sudden change in the weather did not prevent the attendance of a large and elegant company, and upon the preliminary concert being concluded the corridors and luxuriant reception rooms were crowded, and the polished floor of the great drill room was more than half hidden by the circling lines of promenaders. Dancing was begun at half-past nine, and continued far into the morning. The music, ventilation, order of dances, supper, and song requisite were provided for in perfection, and a pleasant reunion it has never been our privilege to attend.

CONNECTICUT.

SECOND INFANTRY.—The following named officers have been finally appointed on the staff of Colonel Barrio, with rank from November 28, 1874: Russell Thompson, of New Haven, to be adjutant with rank of captain; George W. M. Reed, of New Haven, to be quartermaster with rank of first lieutenant; Samuel P. Brown, of New Haven, to be quartermaster with rank of first lieutenant; Henry O. Stearns, of Middletown, to be assistant quartermaster with rank of first lieutenant; Eli Mix, of New Haven, to be commissary with rank of first lieutenant; Charles J. Mansfield, of Meriden, to be surgeon with rank of major; Edward H. Riley, of New Haven, to be assistant surgeon with rank of first lieutenant; Alonzo N. Lewis, of New Haven, to be chaplain with rank of captain.

—Captain A. C. Hendrick, commanding Company F, and Captain Josiah A. Bacon, commanding Company E, were directed to assemble their respective commands at Union armory on Monday, January 11, at 8:30 p. m., for battalion drill.

—Commandants of companies are ordered on the day following each company drill held between January 4 and May 1, 1875, to make out and forward to regimental headquarters a report of the number of officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates present at and absent from every such drill. Said reports will be made on the "morning report" blank.

It having been certified to the commanding officer, by Captain Theodore Byxbee, commanding Company I, of this regiment, that Privates Geo. C. Beadle, John C. Booth, John P. Jerald, Henry E. Johns, Henry H. Kendrick, and Joseph H. McDonald, of his command, absented themselves from the Nineteenth encampment without having been excused, and that notice of encampment was legally served on the men, who have been notified of the fine incurred by such absence and neglect, Captain T. Byxbee has been directed to give them legal notice to appear at the armory of Company I on Wednesday, January 6, at 7:30 o'clock p. m., when the commanding officer will hear and determine their cases.

In pursuance of Special Orders from regimental headquarters, Companies E and F of this regiment, assembled at the Union armory, Monday evening, January 11; thirty-two files front, all told, formed by the sergeant major, (acting as adjutant) into four commands of eight files each. They were turned over to Colonel Barrio, who opened the drill a few minutes before nine o'clock, the order for assembling having been 8:30. The various movements executed were marching in line of battle; fours right about; march in retreat; captains rectify the alignment; to form column of companies to the left; marching by column of company; by the right of company rear into column; by the right of divisions to the rear into column; close the column on rear division; close the column on rear company; to break from column of divisions into column of companies; column of fours break from right to march to the left. At the beginning of the drill, the officers and men were a little rusty, but this wore off, and before the evening was over the movements were executed quite smoothly. We noticed some errors on the part of both officers and guides, several of the latter not being posted as to their positions or duties. Colonel Barrio proved himself a good instructor, explaining each movement clearly before executing it, and pointing out the errors when it was finished. We would, however, suggest that in the future these drills be held with closed doors, and that none be admitted except officers of the regiment and men in uniform, as the noise of the spectators seriously affected the steadiness of the drill. The armory was very poorly lighted, only about half the available burners being lit. When another drill is held in this armory, those having the room in charge should provide more light. One thing this regiment needs in common with the other regiments of the Connecticut National Guard, and that is a fatigue uniform. At the drill in question, Company E paraded in semi-full dress, that is, full dress coat without epaulettes, pants, fatigue cap, and waist belt, while Company F paraded in gray fatigue jacket, cap, equipments, and citizens pants. It is to be hoped the Connecticut Legislature will take this matter in hand, and not allow Massachusetts to crow over the Nutmeg State, because country members are too stingy to provide fatigue jackets for less than three thousand men.

FOURTH INFANTRY.—This regiment is one of the quiet hard-working bodies which rarely come into newspaper notice, but keep steadily at work for all that. On Monday, 11th inst., Lieutenant-Colonel Fairchild's battalion (Companies B, E, and K), drilled at the Bridgeport armory, their third winter's drill, and without any strain or effort did a good deal of hard conscientious work. Their next drill night is on the 15th of February, when we hope to see them. Captain Shumway's battalion has inaugurated the rifle movement in the Fourth, by armory target practice. On Thursday, 9th inst., Lieutenant-Colonel Fairchild's battalion officers held a meeting to inaugurate rifle practice in that section. Company K, of this regiment, is an exemplification of what hard work will do to make men soldiers, for they have to march eight miles every drill night, with the thermometer near zero, and yet manage to turn out sixteen or twenty files every time. City regiments please copy.

A TELEGRAM from Malta, dated Dec. 23, says: "The French war vessel *Armide*, with the Rear-Admiral commanding the French Mediterranean squadron on board, accompanied by the iron-clad corvettes *Reine, Blanche, and Jeanne d'Arc* arrived here this afternoon from Milo. On Monday last there was a tidal wave here. The sea in the harbor rose four feet, and fell after ten minutes. Several steamers parted from their stern moorings."

FOREIGN ITEMS.

A MONSTER 14-in. gun is being manufactured by Krupp, of Essen, for presentation to the Sultan. The cost of the gun is estimated at 20,000 Turkish pounds.

The prize of £30, offered by the Junior Naval Professional Association, of England, for the best Essay on the "Comparative Merits of Simple and Compound Engines as applied to Ships of War," has been unanimously awarded by the judges, to Mr. Neil McDougall, one of the engineering staff at the Admiralty. They considered, however, that the Essay by Mr. Waghorn, Assistant Engineer in H. M. S. *Oroco-dile*, was but little inferior. Both these essays will shortly be published.

The *Pull Mall* correspondent at Berlin writes: "The successes of the Austrian Polar expedition, and the preparations being made in England for a new Arctic expedition, have awakened the desire in Germany not to be behind these two countries. The Polar Exploration Society in Bremen has taken the opportunity of begging the Emperor's support for a new Arctic expedition, which is to be based on the discoveries of the late voyage. The Society for the German North Pole expedition intend to apply for the necessary funds to the Emperor and the German government. Prince Bismarck has already informed the Society that he is very favorably disposed towards the enterprise, and would not be opposed to the Reichstag granting the requisite funds. It is hoped the expedition will be able to start early in the new year."

The Bessemer saloon steamer lately went down the Humber on a trial trip, but in consequence of the fog and a heavy fall of snow was unable to make a regular trial over the measured mile. Her performance was, however, thoroughly satisfactory in every respect. With only two-thirds pressure of steam, and only 20 revolutions per minute, instead of thirty, as expected, she steamed at the rate of 16 miles per hour against a head wind and with considerable sea on. She steered admirably, the low bow acting well, and the separate set of paddle-wheels working in unison most effectively. From this trial there is every reason to believe that the anticipation of the designer will be fully realized. The saloon could not be tried, as the machinery for working it is not yet completed, but in spite of a considerable sea the motion is stated to have been moderate and easy.

Two Expeditions left Cairo, bound up the Nile, on the 5th of December, destined for reconnaissance and conquest into the unexplored kingdoms of Kordofan and Darfour, Central Africa. One Expedition is commanded by Col. R. E. COLSTON and Lieut.-Col. HORATIO B. REED, the other by Col. SPARROW PURDY and Lieut.-Col. A. MACOMBE MASON—all officers of the General Staff (Étât-Major), Egyptian army. The commands were superbly equipped with howitzer and Gatling batteries. A large party of Topographical Engineers, and a Scientific Corps of Naturalists, etc., accompanied the several commands, and will for the first time map the country, going into the heart of Africa, where white man has never before entered. The Expeditions will be absent three years. The Khedive received all the officers at his palace at Kasr-il-Nit the morning prior to leaving, and in a most handsome manner particularly thanked "his American Officers" for their devotion to him, in assuming charge of such perilous expeditions.

The *Alert*, 5, steam-sloop, 751 tons old measurement, which has been chosen to be the consort of the steam whaler *Bloodhound* in the forthcoming English Arctic Expedition, has been berthed at Portsmouth, preparatory to being docked and got ready for the great enterprise for which she has been chosen. The *Royalist* and the *Icarus*, two of the sloop class of screw-steamers attached to the Chatham steam reserve, are to be immediately surveyed, in order to ascertain whether either or both are adapted for being employed in connection with the expedition. The *Royalist* is a three-gun sloop, of 913 tons, and of 627 actual horse power. The *Icarus*, a sister vessel, also mounts three guns, is of 861 tons, and machinery of 247 horse-power. The forthcoming expedition is exciting intense interest in naval circles, and the volunteers for the service will, there is no doubt, be far in excess of the number required. Captain Nares, late of the *Challenger*, who has been appointed to the command, was expected to arrive in this country about the 23rd of last month. It is now definitely settled that the route followed by the expedition shall be that by Smith's Sound. The Admiralty have addressed themselves to the Councils of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Society, and asked those bodies to furnish suggestions regarding the scientific questions that should be kept in view during the expedition. It is announced that a request has been made by the Foreign Office that the Danish government will permit their agents at Disco, Proven, and Upernivik to collect hunters, dogs, and dog drivers for the Arctic Expedition. It is stated that the expedition will not leave till the end of June, it being considered a waste of labor and time to push across the north water till the ice has melted and drifted out of Smith's Sound. Active preparations are being made at the Royal Victoria Dock, Deptford, for provisioning the ships which are to be engaged in the expedition. For this purpose 15,000 lb. of beef are being pre-

served in a peculiar manner. It is wholly lean, taken from the middle of the round, and cut into steaks, when it is put over a fire and dried, then packed into canisters holding about 6 lb. each, covered with boiled suet run in, and then hermetically sealed.

THE London *News* of Dec. 25 has the following: The preceding experiments with the Macomber gun at Portsmouth, in the proof-room of her Majesty's ship *Nettle*, and at Fort Cumberland, have been reported from time to time in our military and naval intelligence. Two facts were established at the trial at Fort Cumberland on the 16th of October, reported on Oct. 20. 1. There was no observable escape of gas. 2. A gun with a rifled tube of 1.275 inch diameter obtained with its shot a maximum penetration of 2 1-2 inches in a piece of unbacked rolled iron plate 3 inches in thickness. The initial velocity of the shot had not, however, been tested in England till last Wednesday. Application had been made by the inventor, who is an American, to the authorities to test the gun at Shoeburyness, but the request was not acceded to, and resort was then had to a private firm, Messrs. Curtis and Harvey, the powder-makers, who use Boulenger's chronograph at their Hounslow mills for testing the velocity given to shot by their powder. In the result an extraordinarily high rate of velocity was marked. The gun is a breech-loader, and it is so built that the largest charge of the chamber will hold the strongest powder that can be used in it without any strain to the gun. This great resistance of the arm is obtained by using soft and comparatively elastic wrought iron in the interior, and inclosing the exterior only with rigid steel. Thus, in building up the gun, the inventor takes a bar of three different densities of wrought iron welded together, and then he rolls the bar into a disk, having a hole in the middle. The disk is "set" with steel punches, driven by a steam hammer until the pressure of the punches begins to manifest itself by expanding the outer edge of the disk. The inventor asserts that the pressure exercised by these punches is much greater than any which will afterward be applied by the charge, and he rejects such disks as cannot stand the strain. The disks, laid side by side and jump-welded together, make the gun, and the part which is the powder-chamber is further inclosed by great steel rings fixed over the disks at the breech by a powerful hydraulic press. The arrangement of tough iron inside and rigid steel outside is designed to equalize the strain, which is known to be much greater at the interior than at the exterior of tubes. The great rings of steel also serve to protect the loading-screw from injury by the enemy's shot. The gun is loaded with powder amounting in weight to just half the weight of the shot, whatever that may be. When it has been loaded, it is closed by two and a half turns of a three-thread screw. The fire tube is forced by the screw into the centre of the charge; the base of the powder-chamber is closely surrounded with the steel blades of the gas check, which thus prevent any escape of gas. The dimensions of the small specimen used on Wednesday are added here to show the proportions which would obtain in large guns. The gun has an extreme length of 48 inches, and the instantaneous combustion of the powder which the strength of the breech allows has its influence in shortening the chase, which is only 24 inches in length. The length of the grooving in the tube is 23 inches. The powder-chamber is 7.25 inches in length, with a diameter of 2.5 inches. The diameter of the grooved tube is 1.275 inches; length of forged breech, with rings, 14.75 inches; diameter of breech, 10.10 inches; diameter over rings, 13 inches; number of rifled grooves, 7. The pitch of the grooves commences with one turn in 130 inches, and finishes with one turn in 93. The missile fired on Wednesday was a conical shot weighing three pounds, and the powder used was one and a half pounds of Curtis and Harvey's sporting powder No. 3. Two shots were fired, but only one was registered. The report of Messrs. Curtis and Harvey's manager, Mr. Brown, who took the time by the chronograph, is to the effect that the initial velocity attained was over 2,000 feet per second. This is a higher velocity than any gun has yet achieved, and, of course, velocity regulates the range and penetration of a weapon. Velocity being determined, the range of the gun may be calculated. A practical experiment for a very long-ranged gun is difficult or impossible to make in England, especially when the range actually claimed for this gun is the enormous distance of nine miles.

THE London *Iron* gives an account of recent experiments with a fog gun: For some time past endeavors have been made to secure for coast-signal purposes something more suited to the duty than the 18-pounder cast iron gun now used. Major Maitland, R.A., of the Royal Gun Factory, has designed a species of revolving gun which will no doubt answer the purpose admirably. But in order to determine the best material and form of muzzle for the new fog gun, four models, each 2ft. long, and capable of containing a cartridge consisting of from four to five ounces of powder, were constructed upon the following different plans, to be tested from the summit of the proof butts in the Plumstead-marshes, at various respective distances: A cast iron gun with a plain muzzle; a cast iron gun with a conical mouth; a cast iron gun with a parabolic mouth; and a bronze gun

with a parabolic mouth. The object of trying both conical and parabolic mouths was to arrive at a decision in regard to the question which has always been pending amongst manufacturers of speaking-trumpets, as to which is the best shape for transmitting sound. Some assert that the form of the instrument should be a truncated cone; others, that it should be a truncated parabolic conoid, the mouth-piece occupying the focus. Either form would, in a greater or less degree, confine the undulations of sound (which would otherwise disperse themselves in all directions) and cause them to take a direction parallel to the axis. Hence the application of one or the other of them. On the occasion of the recent experiments the four models were placed in a row upon the summit of the butts, with their muzzles pointing towards Shooter's-hill. The weather was cold and clear. The observers stationed themselves at various distances in front of the row of guns, from 100 yards to 3,000 yards, moving forwards to a greater distance each time that the whole series of four guns was fired. They were ignorant of the order in which the guns were fired, that being purposely left in the hands of the proof-master, so it was impossible for their opinions to be prejudiced. It was decided that the volume of sound emitted by each discharge should be represented as nearly as possible in figures, No. 1 being the "highest" figure of merit, and No. 5 the lowest. The following results were obtained: Adding together the respective figures of merit of each gun at eight several distances, from 100 to 3,000 yards, it was found that the cast iron gun with the conical mouth gave a total of 10, or, in other words, took the first place as regards the volume of sound produced at all ranges; the cast iron gun with a parabolic mouth a total of 21, thus taking the second place; the bronze gun with the parabolic mouth a total of 22 1-2, or taking the third place; whilst the cast iron gun with the plain or straight mouth gave 26 1-2, the lowest value of all four. At a distance of 1,000 yards only the bronze gun with the parabolic mouth took the second place. This was probably due to the superior ringing qualities of the metal, which would be observed at such a short range. Further experiments were then made by observers stationed about two miles off upon Shooter's-hill. The figures of merit under these circumstances for the several guns were as follows: Out of 6 observations, 6 for the cast iron cone, 12 1-2 for the cast iron parabola, 19 for the bronze parabola, and 22 1-2 for the cast iron plain mouth. Thus we see that the great increase of distance is very unfavorable to the bronze model, and that the plain-muzzled one is out of the field altogether. During the above-mentioned experiments trials were made with gun-cotton, in order to see whether the sound of its report on explosion would reach to any great distance. Masses consisting of about ten ounces were detonated in the open air upon the butts. The noise made considerably exceeded that of the guns. It must be remembered, at the same time, that the proportion of powder in the gun-cartridges bore no analogy to the quantity of gun cotton detonated. The result of the trials was, however, considered so satisfactory that a parabolic reflector is being constructed in which it is intended to explode pieces of gun-cotton.

SILVER PRESENTATION GIFTS.

THE Gorham Company, the well known silver-smiths of No. 1 Bond street, New York, offer the richest and largest assortment of choice articles in silver for wedding and presentation gifts and general family use to be found in the country. They were the designers and manufacturers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL prize cup presented at Creedmoor, and various prizes offered by the National Rifle Association, and the resources of their large establishment enable them to furnish regiments, companies or other organizations, at the shortest notice, with presentation pieces of silver modeled from special designs appropriate to the occasion.

ARMY Officers who contemplate visiting Chicago: should exercise some judgment in selecting their hotel. The "Sherman House" is at the head of the list.

WE are authorized to say for Messrs. POMEROY & Co. 744 Broadway, N. Y., that having perfected their Band Trusses, they now send them to patients on trial, subject to return if not satisfactory. For particulars, write to them, referring to this notice.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages FIFTY CENTS each, and the signature and address of the party sending should accompany the notice.]

LOVETT-BOGGS.—In this city, Jan. 13, by the Rev. Edward B. Boggs, D. D., GEORGE S. LOVETT, of Washington, D. C., and EVELINE BOGGS, daughter of Rear-Admiral Boggs, U. S. Navy.

MILLS-STETZEL.—On Thursday evening, Dec. 17, at the residence of the bride's parents, Fort Colville, W. T., by the Rev. H. T. Cowley, Captain EVAN MILLS, Twenty-first Infantry, and MANTHA, daughter of Jacob Stetzel, Esq.

DIED.

BRITTON.—At Kalamazoo, Michigan, on the morning of the 15th of November, 1874, after an illness of seventeen months of pulmonary consumption, MARGARET, beloved wife of Captain Thomas Britton, Sixth Infantry, U. S. Army. Toledo, Ohio, papers please copy.